

THE DEFENDER

September 28, 2005

ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE, COLCHESTER, VT.

Volume XXV, Issue 2

Tarrant receives \$20,000 for equipment

By Jack Owens
Staff Writer

Two elliptical machines, free-weight dumbbells and exercise balls have been added to the fitness room in Tarrant Recreation Center. The machines replace old, worn-out stationary bicycles, \$20,000 has been spent to upgrade weight and cardio equipment according to Athletic Director Geri Knortz.

Michael Samara, dean of students, met with President Marc vanderHeyden and administrative officers in a budget session to discuss the status of Tarrant's fitness room. Samara asked for \$20,000 each year for the next five years for repairs and replacements.

Samara was granted \$20,000 for this year. The budget committee will decide on the full five-year plan based on the progress made.

Knortz worked with Samara on this project and is also collaborating with him to continue funding.

The Tarrant Center is 10 years old and the facilities need repair and renovation, according to Samara.

"Students went to the powers that be and they listened," said Bernie Cieplicki, Tarrant Center director of facilities. "More changes will come with time and resources."

Resources are difficult to come by with the college's projected \$2.8 million budget shortfall.

Samara is conscious of the current state of the gym and wants to make progress. He believes that exercise is the cornerstone of this notion.

"Students must make choices to achieve a healthy mind, body, and spirit," Samara said.

Samara is concerned with the frustration shown by the student body with the fitness room.

"The worst part about it is that all 1,900 students have to share it, solely because of a lack of equipment," Junior Steve Smalling said.

"I guarantee that we will get this to the table," Samara said. "We bottomed-out this year. Our equipment is embarrassingly old. A baby-step was made this year; a series of steps is needed to get caught up."

Samara and Knortz have discussed the possibility of having a weight room strictly for varsity athletes. According to Samara, there are roughly 400 student-athletes at St. Michael's. Varsity athletes would be able to lift as a team at specific times. Non-varsity athletes would not have to wait to use equipment and machines.

"It would help the whole student body," Samara said.



Photos by Emily Heffernan

Construction workers stand at the site of St. Michael's new Robert E. Sutton Fire and Rescue Building on Wednesday, Sept. 21.

New home for Fire and Rescue

Construction nears completion; dedication planned for Oct. 8

By Will Gamache
Staff Writer

The Fire and Rescue Squads will move into the new Robert E. Sutton Fire and Rescue Building in the next few weeks.

The new firehouse, located on Vermont 15 next to the security building, replaces the old Donald Sutton Firehouse on North Campus.

The new building will give the Fire and Rescue squads much needed room. It will include living space, offices, classroom space, and sleeping quarters. It will also house all vehicles and equipment, said Peter Soons, director of safety and security. When the weather is bad, some firefighters have the option to sleep at the firehouse to respond quicker, Soons said.

"We had clearly outgrown the spaces we had," Soons said. "We will be able to fit the whole fleet under one roof."

Carter Neville, a sophomore firefighter, said he would choose to sleep in the firehouse.

"I plan on taking advantage of the situation," Neville said. "I think it's a great idea."

A dedication will take place on Oct. 8 and each area of the new firehouse will be named, Soons said.

While contractors are working

"The firehouse is the result of a lot of dreaming, and it's exciting to see it come to reality."

Peter Soons,
director of safety and security

hard to have the building operational by the dedication, Soons said the squads would probably move in after the event.

The new building and location will allow for faster response times to emergencies on main campus and the adjacent communities.

"Ultimately, it will give us the ability to serve the community more effectively," Soons said.

The Fire and Rescue Squad serves four communities outside of St. Michael's; Winooski, Williston, St. George and Hinesburg, as well as the strip of Vermont 15 from Winooski to Essex. The new location is closer to Interstate 89 and will help the squads get to these communities

See STATION, Page 3



A half-wrapped fire pole is set in place at the new firehouse, located on Vermont 15.



OUTDOORS

Longboarding has become increasingly popular on campus. Students use the boards for recreation and transportation.

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SPORTS

Rugby returns to St. Michael's with wins for both the men's and women's teams on Saturday.

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NEWS

SECURITY LOG

Excerpts from the Sept. 7-22, 2005 security reports, courtesy of St. Michael's College Office of Safety and Security

Saturday, September 17

11:38 p.m. 911 hangup at the Quad
11:43 a.m. Drunkenness at Ryan Hall
11:55 p.m. Noise complaint at Townhouse 200s

Sunday, September 18

12:22 a.m. Disorderly conduct at Townhouse 300s
12:48 a.m. Suspicious person at Townhouse 100s
12:50 a.m. 911 hangup at Townhouse 300s
2:29 a.m. Assault at Townhouse 300s

2:59 a.m. Suspicious person on Campus Road
3:51 a.m. Suspicious person at Pontigny Hall
5:05 a.m. Unsecured door at Linnehan Hall

Monday, September 19

10:00 a.m. Lockout at Alumni Hall
1:48 p.m. Suspicious person at Ryan Parking Lot

Wednesday, September 21

3:36 a.m. Medical assist at Founders Hall
5:47 p.m. Lockout at Lyons Hall
7:49 p.m. Alarm at Cashman Hall

10:44 p.m. Fire alarm at Lyons Hall
11:56 p.m. 911 hangup at Hamel Hall

Thursday, September 22

2:14 a.m. Suspicious person at Townhouse 300s
4:37 a.m. Unsecured door at Joyce Hall
5:46 a.m. Fire alarm at Lyons Hall
1:04 p.m. Lockout at St. Edmund's Hall
4:48 p.m. Fire alarm at Lyons Hall
6:28 p.m. Lockout at Townhouse 400s
10:47 p.m. Parking enforcement at Pontigny Hall
11:20 p.m. Alcohol violation at Ryan Hall

S.A. releases new club allocations

At the Student Association's Day Away event Saturday, Sept. 24, the 2005-06 estimated and actual club allocations were released. The numbers are derived from the S.A.'s total budget.

The Guitar Club has no estimated budget because it did not go through the allocations process last spring, according to S.A. President Tyronne Walker. The total actual allocations are \$7,426.93 more than the estimated total budget. Most clubs received a \$167 increase.

CLUBS	Estimated 2005-06 Budget (in dollars)	Actual 2005-06 Budget (in dollars)
AGB	500.00	667.00
ALIANZA	1,440.00	1,607.00
ALLY	14,500.00	14,667.00
A-TEAM	3,500.00	3,667.00
ATHLETICS	1,000.00	1,167.00
CLASS OF 2009	200.00	200.00
CHARITY (1%)	4,173.40	4,247.93
CHEERLEADING	9,000.00	9,167.00
COFFEEHOUSE	7,500.00	7,667.00
COMPUTER	1,500.00	1,667.00
CYCLING	2,500.00	2,667.00
DANCE	1,800.00	1,967.00
DEFENDER	14,000.00	14,167.00
DIVERSITY	5,500.00	5,667.00
DRAMA	17,150.00	17,317.00
E-BOARD	38,000.00	38,167.00
EFG	1,470.00	1,637.00
ECHO	3,100.00	3,267.00
ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB	1,000.00	1,167.00
FREERIDE	2,500.00	2,667.00
GUITAR CLUB	00.00	167.00
HILLTOP	25,000.00	25,167.00
KNITTING	1,200.00	1,367.00
MLK SOCIETY	18,620.00	18,787.00
MOVE (10%)	41,734.00	42,479.00
PEACE AND JUSTICE	1,500.00	1,667.00
PHOTOGRAPHY	4,320.00	4,487.00
POLI-SCI	11,720.00	11,887.00
RUGBY - MEN	13,000.00	13,167.00
RUGBY - WOMEN	11,080.00	11,247.00
SCIENCE	1,500.00	1,667.00
STUDENT GLOBAL AIDS CAMPAIGN	9,000.00	9,167.00
SLEEPLESS KNIGHTS	1,987.00	2,154.00
SPECIAL EVENTS	70,000.00	70,000.00
SNOWBOARD	4,700.00	4,867.00
TRACK	2,021.00	2,188.00
ULTIMATE FRISBEE CLUB	960.00	1,127.00
WILDERNESS (8%)	33,387.20	33,983.00
WWPV	19,000.00	19,167.00
SA RESERVES	12,177.40	12,344.00
TOTAL	417,340.00	424,766.93

Law targeting student drug offenders stirs debate

By Zach Ahmad
U-Wire

WASHINGTON, D.C. — When Prewitt Witham, a former student at the New England Institute of Technology in Warwick, R.I., was caught with marijuana in his system while driving, he knew he was in legal trouble.

What he didn't realize at the time was that the offense would end up costing him his education. Under an obscure federal law less than a decade old, Witham was rendered ineligible for the federal financial aid he'd been receiving and had to drop out of school.

"It stopped me from getting the degree that me and my family had paid for," Witham said. "I'm a taxpayer, and that's my money ... I really don't think it's fair."

Under the Drug Provision to the Higher Education Act, passed in 1998 and enacted in 2000, students convicted twice for possession or once for the sale of illegal drugs are ineligible to receive federal financial aid.

"We think it's an overly harsh punishment to say that if you use drugs, you shouldn't be allowed to become a successful contributing member of society," said Chris Mulligan, spokesman for Raise Your Voice, an advocacy group.

With the law up for reauthorization this year, the debate has been rekindled in the halls of Congress. The controversy surrounding the Drug Provision strikes at the heart of a larger debate about how best to combat drug use among American use. Supporters of the law argue that

students using drugs are not making the most of their education and should not be afforded taxpayer money.

"Students who are going to ask the American taxpayer to subsidize or pay for their education have to accept that there are responsibilities that come with that privilege," said Martin Green, a spokesman for Souder. "The American taxpayer shouldn't be asked to foot the bill if they're wasting their educations selling or using drugs."

Green said the provision is meant to be a disincentive for students to use illegal substances, and points out that law allows for aid to be reinstated to students who complete a drug rehabilitation program.

However, those on the other side charge that the law is counterproductive. To deny students an education, they say, only makes them more likely to use drugs in the future.

Neither supporters nor opponents of the Drug Provision expect the law to be repealed this year, but activists are encouraged by the proposed reforms. Mulligan said he believes most in Congress disagree with the law but are afraid to confront the issue, and he is hopeful it will one day be done away with.

But for those affected by the law, the impact has already been felt.

"If my mother or father was rich, they could just pay for it, but I had to have loans and grants," Witham said. "I wanted to get my degree, and I really can't afford to get one right now."

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NEWS

Sloane Cafe opens on North Campus

Renovated dining area featuring Chinese food has proved instantly popular among students

By Kelly Spillane
Staff Writer

As the door to the Sloane building on North Campus opens, salivating aromas of Asian oils and spices filter into the nostrils of St. Michael's students. The alluring scents quickly send images of Chinese food take-out and delicious Asian cuisine to the brain.

In prior years, Sloane Cafe's only claim to fame was its chicken nuggets. This year the cafe has undergone a transformation whereby students can place an order and have their meal delivered right to their table.

"We wanted to give students another option," said Hank Strashnick, Sodhexo general manager, "a change of setting; students get sick of eating within the same four walls of Alliot at every meal."

While Sloane has offered students an alternative dining option for years, the cafe seemed to lack drawing power. Very few students knew it existed and even fewer used its services.

"Up until this year, the Sloane cafeteria simply served a limited version of whatever Alliot was serving," Strashnick said. "Something, however, was missing. It was very rarely used. Last year Sloane served an average of only 18 to 20 students per night."

Strashnick and others began brainstorming ways to create more interest. The Sloane cafe had restaurant capabilities except for the limited refrigeration space. Therefore, whatever was served needed to include a large amount of fresh ingredients.

"This is what led us to our Asian themed food," Strashnick said. "It may lack some of the diversity of Alliot, but the ingredients are fresher and it also provides that international feel that Alliot does not always offer."

Sloane Cafe keeps three

"I really like how they serve your meals to you ... it's also quieter and more relaxing than Alliot."

Liana Demarco,
sophomore

standard meals on the menu every week. These meals are usually beef with broccoli stir-fry, sweet and sour chicken and eggplant cha tzu. Every day two new specials are placed on the menu such as chicken kung pao or beef chang mai.

For Strashnick, the proof of the new cafe's success is in the numbers.

"We had more diners in the first week of the new cafe this year than in a whole month last year," he said.

At 6 p.m. on a Tuesday night, 30 minutes before closing time, approximately 20 students sat scattered about the rectangular tables. Many ate beef with broccoli stir fry and sweet and sour chicken with fried rice, while servers panned the room, serving orders and inquiring as to the satisfaction of the diners.

Sophomore Alyssa Fitzpatrick enjoyed her first meal in the Sloane Cafe.

"I was pretty intrigued by the flyers in Alliot," Fitzpatrick said. "Our rugby team practices up north so I decided to try it out. The soup is way better than Alliot's. I am starting to think about eating here every Tuesday and Thursday after rugby."

"The fresh ingredients are awesome," said sophomore Mike



Photo by Emily Heffernan

Entree chef Bob Shea reaches for ingredients to prepare Chinese style food at Sloane Cafe on September 27.

Hayes. "I would like to see more decorations though. You'd think that with the art studio right next door, more artwork would be on display."

Many also seem to be impressed with the Sloane cafe atmosphere.

"Everyone is super nice when you come here," sophomore Liana Demarco said. "I really like how they serve your meals to you, it makes things less chaotic, it's also quieter and more relaxing than Alliot."

Although the student reaction to the new menu has been generally positive, some students are disappointed by the lack of variety.

"Why do they have to serve Chinese food every night?" North Campus resident Brian Nagle said. "I was promised chicken

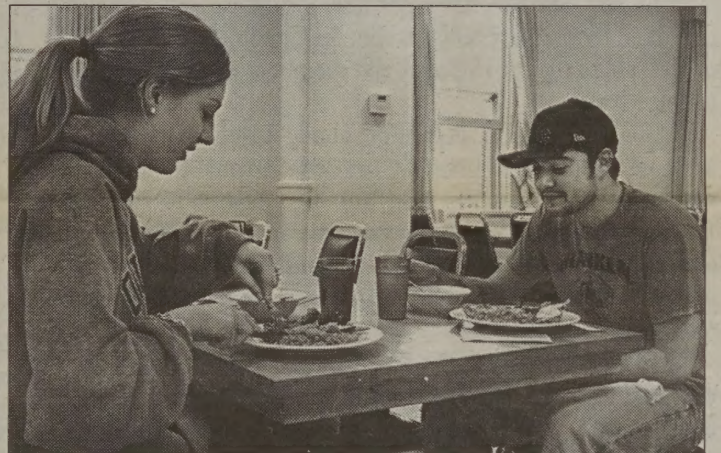


Photo by Emily Heffernan

Emma Long and Chris Vaughn enjoy dinner in Sloane Cafe on Sept. 27.

nuggets and chicken patties."

While Sodhexo has no plans for further changes to the Sloane Cafe, that does not mean this oriental theme will be around forever.

"Right now we are just feeling out the water," Strashnick said. "We'll see how this set up goes. So far, it looks like it's going well."

News in Brief

Jurassic 5 performing at fall concert

Tickets are on sale now at the bookstore for the fall concert, Jurassic 5. The show is Friday, October 21 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 with a two-ticket limit per student. Bring your Knight Card to purchase tickets.

Halloween dance to be held in Tarrant

This year's Halloween dance will be held in the Tarrant Recreation center, not in Alliot Hall. According to Director of Student Activities Jennie Cernosia, time has been invested to "change the culture of the Halloween dance" and make it a "nicer, big, decorated event."

Trustees on campus Oct. 7-9

The St. Michael's College board of trustees will be on campus the first weekend in October for a retreat reflecting on the Catholic identity of the college.

Sutton firehouse dedication Oct. 8

The new Robert E. Sutton Fire and Rescue station will be dedicated on Oct. 8, according to the Office of Safety and Security. In addition to housing the Fire and Rescue Squads, the building will also be the new location of Security and the switchboard.

STATION: Squads prepare for new Fire and Rescue facility

Continued from Page 1

faster.

"It will allow us to respond everywhere more quickly," said Aaron Bernstein, a junior medic on the Rescue Squad. "Quicker, but also safer."

Funding for the new building was raised by the Fire and Rescue Squads. Donations were also given by alumni. The primary donor was Robert E. Sutton, a St. Michael's alumnus who pledged \$700,000 toward the project. He is not related to Donald Sutton, Soons said.

The building was slated to cost \$1.6 million, "but certain requirements imposed by the town of Colchester and additional site work caused us to increase the budget to \$2 million," Neal Rob-

Some features of the new station:

- ▶ Space for 3 ambulances, a fire engine and a hose truck
- ▶ Offices for Security
- ▶ Office for switchboard
- ▶ Office and training room
- ▶ 6 bunk rooms
- ▶ Lounge
- ▶ Kitchen
- ▶ Bathrooms
- ▶ Slide pole

inson, vice president of finance, said in an e-mailed response.

With more room to work with, the Rescue Squad would be able to put both ambulances on call at once if there's the staff to do so, Soons said. Currently, with

no room to house the second ambulance, the Rescue Squad can respond to only one call at a time.

According to the Fire and Rescue Web site, the Rescue Squad responds to more than 2,700 calls a year, including respiratory and cardiac emergencies and motor vehicle accidents.

The Fire Squad, which covers the town of Colchester as well as St. Michael's, responds to more than 500 emergencies yearly.

"It's a great step forward in that it will bring us together as a department," Neville said.

The new building will allow the two units to operate as one department Soons said.

The new Robert E. Sutton Fire House "is the result of a lot of dreaming, and it's exciting to see it come to reality," he said.

OPINION

Editorial

Dude, where's my student activities fee?

I am the common St. Mike's student. With help from loans, scholarship money and my parents, I pay my \$33,000 to attend this college like everyone else. Of that chunk of change, \$26,550 is my full-time tuition, going toward academics (maintaining classrooms, paying professors, etc.); another \$6,560 is room and board for the townhouse amenities I enjoy.

That leaves \$220, my student activities fee this year. Combined with the fees of you other 1,900 undergrads, that's about \$418,000. That money goes to our Student Association, making up a portion of its budget. But I have no clue whether our money is being used responsibly or not.

It seems reasonable that students should be able to go into the S.A. office, open up a public document and see where our money goes. We are allowed to see the S.A.'s allocation to each of its 43 clubs, funds and organizations. (These numbers are presented on Page 2 of our News section.) The allocation is the overall budget set for clubs and organizations such as MOVE, the Wilderness Program and even The Defender. Yet, we can see only how clubs intend to spend their money.

We can't tell if S.A. budget money is actually being used for its intended purpose. We can't see how much a club spends on food, gas, hotels, supplies or other expenses. There's no means for us to check that clubs spend their funds responsibly.

After allocations, mum's the word on what clubs do with their money. The S.A. is responsible for taking down records of club activities, but only an elite few get to see these records, including our E-Board and members of St. Michael's finance staff.

Although the S.A. does report budget figures to St. Michael's finance department, the departments' policy is to withhold budget numbers from any organization on campus. The manager of financial accounts the director of finance both refused to reveal the S.A.'s expenditures from 2005 or past years. Confidential budget numbers were one of several roadblocks I encountered in my search for the truth.

Students looking to the S.A. to share its budget records will find its policy is frighteningly similar to our finance department's. The S.A. expects students to track down every funded club and organization if they hope to learn where their student activities fee is going. This expectation is entirely unreasonable. This is a case of hidden information.

Students ought to know where their money is going. The S.A. could release information on how every penny of its budget is spent, but it doesn't. To resolve this issue, the S.A. could designate a committee to keep track of expenditures and also transfer that information to students.

It's your money, you should know how its spent.

St. Michael's spirit

In the wake of the Hurricane Katrina's destruction, St. Michael's College has shown its dedication to charity by contributing to relief efforts to help those in need.

As of Friday, Sept. 23, the Edmundite Campus Ministry Katrina Relief Fund had grown to more than \$37,000 since it was established Sept. 9, said the Rev. Brian Cummings, director of Edmundite Campus Ministry. Contributions have come from alumni, students, faculty, staff, our Edmundite Campus Ministry and worshippers from the Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel.

That's more than one-third of the \$100,000 goal. As fund-raising efforts continue, we urge you to give what you can.

Our hearts go out to the Edmundites and worshippers from St. Peter Claver Parish, to the students and staff of Bishop Perry Middle School, to St. Michael's students and New Orleans natives Tyronne Walker and William Sledge, and to the victims who have lost lives, family members, homes and jobs to this disaster.

— Sean Cooley, executive editor

PHOTO OF THE WEEK | Dragging along



Photo by Jonah Kessel

First-year Ollie Smith bails out on Campus Road in front of Ryan Hall. Smith is one of the many students found longboarding around St. Michael's campus.

Hurricane Katrina: Dealing with the disaster

By Ailee Slater
Oregon Daily Emerald
(U. Oregon)

Hurricane Katrina has come and gone, taking with her more than 1,000 lives. Rita is well on her way out, with only one reported death directly related to hurricane damage. I think we've all learned something: preventative measures are key.

President Bush certainly believes in preventative measures. He went out of his way to ignore concrete evidence and predict that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction. Bush even went to war to prevent an Iraqi weapon of mass destruction from hitting the United States. So maybe it would be more accurate to say that Bush pre-empted his post-9/11 fall in political capital by blaming terrorism on Iraq and attacking the

country at will.

The Bush administration was all for a pre-emptive strike against Iraq, but not one person took such swift action in evacuating the city of New Orleans.

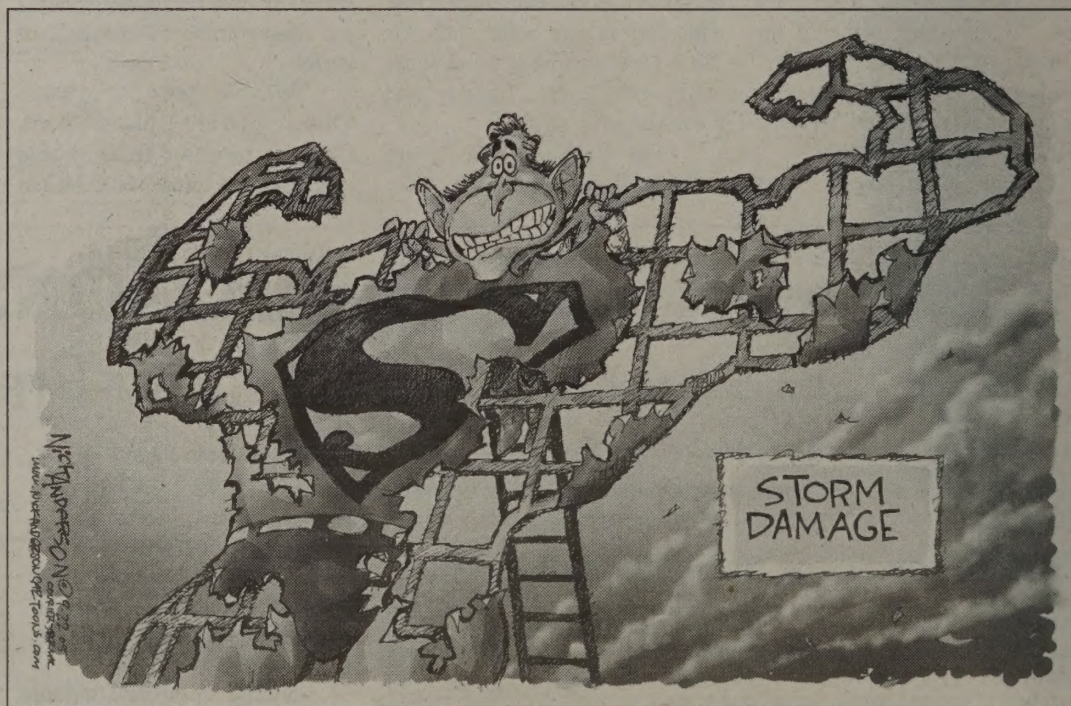
Yes, money is always an issue. The subtext to the money is that no one in the Bush administration can even listen when environmental scientists say global warming could be one reason for a recent upsurge in dangerous storms. If the government has the power to allocate the billions of dollars it takes to deal with Katrina, they surely have the power to use scientific information as well as foresight and reduce greenhouse gases with the help of cleaner-burning fuel sources.

Speaking of preventative measures that can still save future disaster victims, it would do Bush well to remember that

a reported 37 million Americans live in poverty. Aside from using phrases saturated in political correctness, Bush is doing very little to solve the problem of poverty. Bush claims that he can see the poverty and racism factors that resulted in Hurricane Katrina's destruction, but policy decisions show only that there is a "great city" needing to be rebuilt.

Phrases drenched in political accuracy are of no help to the poor. New buildings do nothing to heal the poverty that led to so many citizens unable to escape their Great City as it flooded out from under them.

Without a car to travel across freeways, without a television to even realize that there was a problem, New Orleans' poorest had little choice but to perish where they stood.



Letters to the editor

What's your view?

Send a letter of 500 words or less to the editor on any subject related to St. Michael's College by e-mail at defender@smcvt.edu.

Hope to hear from you soon.

DEFENDER

MISSION
STATEMENT

As the editorial staff of The Defender, the student-run newspaper of St. Michael's College, we strive to accurately, professionally and ethically report the news affected the lives of students in the community.

The Defender is a designated public forum. Student editors make all content decisions. We believe in the freedom of expression. We encourage our readers to express their views at any time.

The Defender publishes letters to the editor in response to articles that we have printed in the paper and issues on campus. The Defender does not publish anonymous letters. Letters will be edited only for grammar, spelling, good taste, and sometimes length.

FEATURES

CAMPUS SPEAKS

What would you name
Britney and Kevin
Spears-Federline's baby?



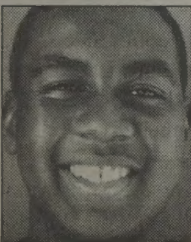
"Oops...I did it again, because I doubt that she was planning it."

Hunter Gaiotti, '07



"Miles, because I want to give it some class."

Jill Ohrenberger, '08



"I have a name in mind but I don't think that I'm allowed to say it."

Obi Onwuchekwa, '07



"Doomed to be trailer trash, because they are white-trash."

Allison Tracey, '09

"Aguilera. I am more of a Christina Aguilera fan because she is half Irish."

James Byrne, religious studies professor



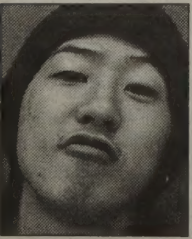
"Who?"

Rachel Thibeault, '07



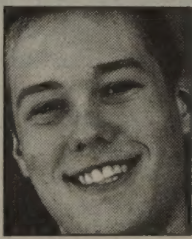
"Hisayoshi, because that's my grandfather's name."

Genki Yoshino, SIS, Japan



"Ben, because it's my friend's name and he is cool."

John Biancamano, '09



Get to know what's-her-face St. Michael's students log on to facebook.com

By Aly Szymaszek
Staff Writer

St. Michael's College was recently added to Facebook.com, an online student directory that includes an extensive number of colleges and universities. It enables users to see pictures of friends from school and home.

Last year, students became members of SMCFacebook.com, where they could only see profiles of St. Michael's students.

About six months ago, it came to the attention of Jon Cloutier-Namdar, a student employee in Information Technology, that the administrator of the SMC Facebook was not responding to contacts made by the school. Cloutier-Namdar expressed his concern to IT Chief Information Officer Bill Anderson.

Because students willingly included personal information, such as cell phone numbers or room numbers, IT became alarmed. Students were informed of the anonymity of the webmaster, and told to remove their private information.

After removing itself from the SMC Facebook, St. Michael's joined CollegeFacebook.com.

"The SMC Facebook and College Facebook were designed by the same people," Cloutier-Namdar said. "Students who were members of SMC Facebook automatically became members of College Facebook by default."

Because of the problems with the two previous sites, Anderson contacted representatives of Facebook.com.

"The thing we liked about this particular site is that they were very clear about security and their privacy policies," Anderson said. "There was a person

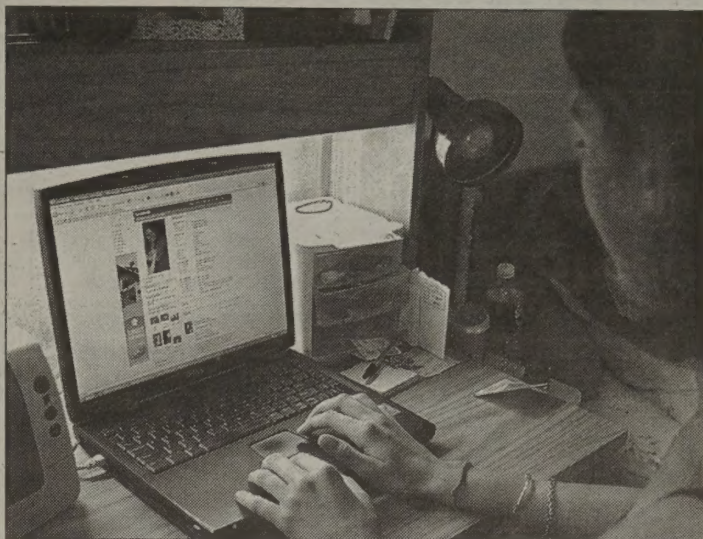


Photo by Emily Heffernan

Senior Hattie Johnson scans Facebook.com. Johnson said she's happy that St. Michael's switched to the new version this year.

Want to Facebook?

Become a facebooker on:

► <http://www.facebook.com/>

► <http://collegefacebook.com/>

you could contact."

Facebook.com administrators required basic information before adding St. Michael's, including residence halls, enrollment and majors.

Sophomore Tamara Cornelissen said Facebook.com is her favorite directory of the three that St. Michael's has subscribed to.

"It allows me to stay connected with my friends at SMC and back at home," Cornelissen said.

Facebook.com has a range of features that allow users to entertain themselves.

To become a user, log in to <http://www.facebook.com/> and register.

Every member has a profile

for users to explore. The profile area includes a place for a picture, account information, basic information, contact information and personal information.

In profiles, there is a group section. Groups are created out of an interest of a user, such as, "Fans of Dave Matthews Band" or "Red Sox Nation." Students that join a group can view the profiles of others with the same interest.

The "wall" section is a way for a user's friends to leave comments on their friends' profiles. Other users can view the comments.

"Poking" is one of senior Meredith Regan's favorite features. It is a way to get the attention of a fellow user.

Cloutier-Namdar and Anderson said risks still remain in joining a network of people. Fraud can occur when e-mail addresses are given out. However, students decide who can see their information and can deactivate their membership at any point.

Campus Ministry trains student ministers

By Laura Bagby
Features Editor

Edmundite Campus Ministry has begun training 25 St. Michael's students to fill the liturgical minister positions of lector, Eucharistic minister and altar server. These students will join the 67 trained students serving during Sunday Mass at the Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel.

"Each year we have around 100 students take part in our liturgical ministries programs," said Joanne Nelson, associate director for pastoral services. "It really humbles me how many students take the time out of their busy schedules to participate."

Lectors, Eucharistic ministers and altar servers perform tasks that allow them to share in the ministry of the liturgy and aid in the flow of the Mass, Nelson said.

Lectors take part in the first part of the Mass, called the Liturgy of the Word. During this time, lectors read from the Old and

New Testament, which Roman Catholics believe are the inspired words of God, Nelson said.

Altar servers carry the cross in and out of services and participate in the second part of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Eucharist. These students help to prepare the "table of Lord by placing the sacred vessels for sacrament on it," Nelson said. This includes the chalice and the paten, which are used to serve the wine and bread during the communion.

Eucharist ministers serve communion to the congregation. The communion consists of the "blood of Christ," represented by wine, and the "body of Christ," represented by bread. Eucharist ministers are the only branch of the liturgical ministry in which students must be Roman Catholic to participate.

"Catholics believe that Christ is present in the communion, so one who shares these beliefs must be distributor of the bread and wine," Nelson said.

During a training session,

the Rev. Ray Doherty, a campus minister, called the students "extraordinary ministers of the Holy Communion," a declaration taken from the official teaching of the Catholic Church.

"You are involved in a great ministry and hold a great privilege," Doherty said. "But we have a great responsibility to live what we minister."

Sophomore Lector Mallory Wood gave her time to liturgical ministry after she experienced what she called the "incredible St. Michael's Mass."

"When you are up at the altar and look back at the crowd there is a wonderful sense of community," Wood said. "Lectoring isn't only a way to ensure that I go to Mass, it is a way to meet new people and stay involved with my faith."

Liturgical ministers are scheduled to participate in one Mass per month, and are able to choose between the 11 a.m. and the 8 p.m. services.

FEATURES

HOROSCOPES

By Sean Cooley

LIBRA: (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

Have your friends take turns guessing how many pizzas Domino's delivers to The Quad in an average week. The answer is 8,844. Whoever came closest needs to lay off the Buffalo Kickers.

SCORPIO: (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Why do people write such vulgar things on the back of public toilet stall doors? Next time you sit down in one, bring a pen or marker. For every cuss word you see, draw a nice butterfly or a pretty flower. Who cares if it makes you a hippie, just do it.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Do you ever have trouble telling a pair of twins apart? Ask one what his or her name is and then slug that twin in the face. Now you'll know who the one with the black eye is for at least a few weeks.

CAPRICORN: (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Design an adult-sized playground. There could be an 80 ft. slide with a ball pit at the end, now that would be cool.

AQUARIUS: (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Do you know how much money Kanye West rakes in from Geico for mentioning its name in his new single? Become a rapper and completely sell-out by only rapping about brand names. Here's your first single: "McDonald's American Eagle on tha Ford F-150 I-Pod, biatch."

PISCES: (Feb. 19 - March 20)

The word "awkward" both looks and sounds awkward. Tell Webster to give the word a total makeover.

ARIES: (March 21 - April 19)

You think your job is hard? Try scalping WNBA tickets.

TAURUS: (April 20 - May 20)

Be sure to get out and travel to exotic locales while you're still young. Before you know it you'll have to work every week and nobody will want to see you with your shirt off anyway.

GEMINI: (May 21 - June 20)

Refrain from using similes ever again. Similes are a like bird without feathers. They are like lightning with no thunder or a horoscope without irony.

CANCER: (June 21 - July 22)

Pro baseball players can spend an awfully long time on the field during a long inning. At your next ballgame, be considerate by bringing your favorite outfielder a pee cup.

LEO: (July 23 - Aug. 22)

You can freak people out if you start referring to doggie bags as doggie-style bags.

VIRGO: (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

Those new Burger King commercials with the King mascot intercepting the ball during NFL games are hilarious, but who says that can't happen in real life? Get to a costume shop pronto.

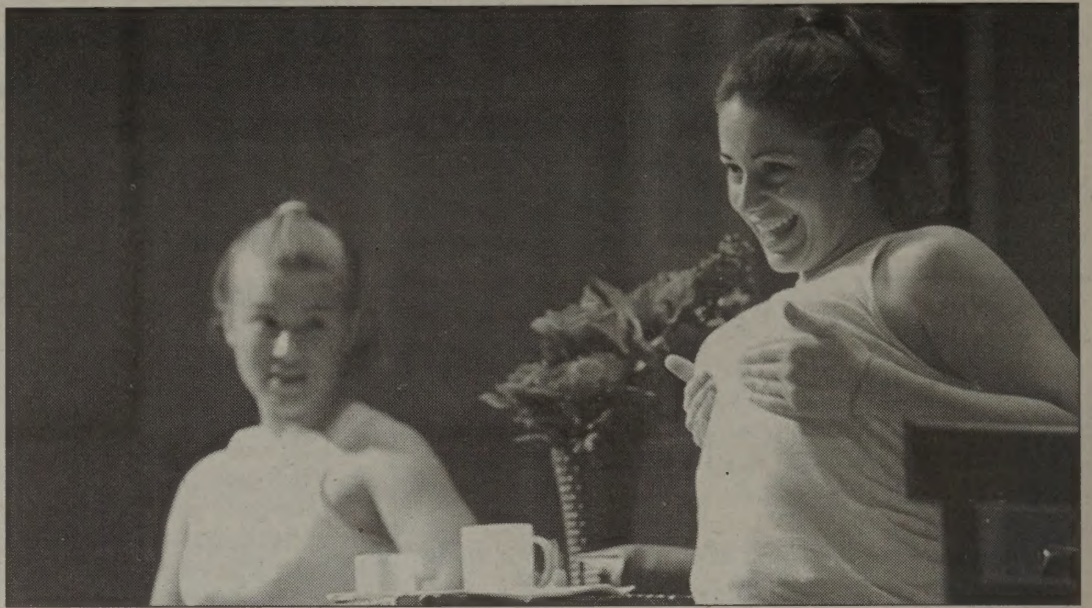


Photo by Jonah Kessel

Candice Quilty (right) and Christina Shantz perform during "What Color?" one of six plays that premiered at the third annual 24-hour play festival.

At play for 24 hours

SMC students write, direct and produce plays in one day

By Carl Lawrence
Staff Writer

A crowd filled McCarthy Arts Center on Sept. 24 to watch the third annual 24-hour play festival. The festival requires students to write, direct and produce plays within 24 hours.

"My one major goal is that we are producing new works," said Michael Mosey, coordinator of the festival. "We produce original works and to me that is a huge thing; creating new theatre is awesome."

The 24-hour play festival is sponsored by the St. Michael's Drama Club and is open to all who want to participate.

The participants are separated into writers, directors and actors. Groups meet in the recital hall to be introduced to their units.

At 11 p.m. the directors and actors are invited to leave for the night, giving the writers the time to develop ideas for plays. Cases

of Red Bull, Pepsi and Mountain Dew, serve as fuel to keep their minds active during the night.

The mood is both exciting and somber as each group takes a different approach to creating stories.

"If our ideas were paper this place would be littered," said first-year Josh Ames.

Ames worked with sophomores Jon Anderson and Jon Taylor and first-year Jan Leja to create the play "Stiffed," one of the six plays created for the festival.

The 24-hour play festival is the first drama event of this year, Mosey said. It gives the department the opportunity to meet people who may be interested in theater.

"This is perfect because it is a relatively small commitment as opposed to a full semester of rehearsal for a main stage performance," Mosey said.

As more students get involved and bigger audiences come to see the play, it generates

a buzz for the theater department, said Cathy Hurst, faculty advisor to the festival.

"It gives students bragging rights because they are on a creative and artistic adventure that not many other people have done," Hurst said.

"It feels really difficult until you hit on something that really flies," junior Dave Perry said.

Perry, along with seniors Jo Pressimone, Jeff Baker and first-year Andrew Collins, wrote the script for "Old Friend of the Family."

"Doing everything in one day is kind of stressful because you have so much work to do and so little time," said first-year Kevin Parise. "But the play is short and it kind of flows nicely. Kudos to the writers."

The shows were finished by deadline. During the performance the crowd reacted with laughter and applause that echoed through the recital hall.

St. Michael's pulls the plug

Durick Library installs wireless Internet access

By Amy Kingston
Staff Writer

Over the summer, wireless Internet was added to Durick Library. However, students may be unaware that wireless access is available and some areas on campus have been wireless for two years.

According to Rick Murphy, assistant director of user services at Information Technology, wireless Internet access was installed two years ago on all three academic floors of Jeanmarie Hall, in the language lab in St. Edmund's Hall and on the third floor of the Cheray Science Hall.

"Let's get the word out," Murphy said. "I think people really just don't know."

Steve Burks, a reference and instruction librarian, has not noticed more students coming to study and take advantage of the

wireless access.

"It's a pilot program," Burks said. "We haven't noticed a change yet. However, we are anticipating more students to study in the library."

Next to the library reference desk is an exhibit with basic information on the wireless Internet and handouts giving students step-by-step instructions on how to configure their laptops for wireless access.

"It was a very easy installation," sophomore Dan Anctil said. "I was surprised."

Anctil said that having wireless access in the library will not bring him to the library any more than usual.

"I just wish we had it on the entire campus," Anctil said. "It would be so convenient."

"Our plan is do a little every year," Murphy said. "I'd like to see the whole thing done in the

next couple of years."

Murphy said that the school's technology is constantly advancing and he hopes to have a wireless campus before the next advancement.

"If we had the money we could get it done next summer," he said. "But one hundred access points at a couple thousand dollars each is not cheap."

Even though it is expensive, Murphy said all new Internet installations on campus will be wireless.

There is one downfall to wireless Internet, Murphy said.

"As a technology, it's not as fast as a wired network," he said.

Murphy is excited about the new advancement in technology.

"It will be really cool if everyone is running around with their laptops," he said. "It's fun stuff."

CULTURES

Selling a vision of American youth

New Burlington store, American Apparel, defines youth culture through racy photography

By Jesse Holland
Staff Writer

"Casual Sex" is the image sold at the recently opened Burlington clothing store, American Apparel, said Aiyana Foster, assistant store manager. American Apparel just opened its doors on Saturday Aug. 27.

The sense of casual sex is integrated within every aspect of the company, from the cut of the clothing to the store's decor. Foster said casual clothing is not usually sexy and American Apparel is trying to increase the sex appeal by taking a different viewpoint than the norms within the retail clothing and fashion industry.

"[American Apparel] pushes the scene in a good way," said Assistant Manager Vanessa Fatton. "Burlington is growing every year. Thousands and thousands of students flock each year to Burlington. Our clientele is youth."

Fatton said that all advertisements and images in the store are of American Apparel employees, not celebrities or models.

"No air brushing, no touch ups," Fatton said. "It's a more realistic part of youth culture."

One common face, and nearly naked male body, in American Apparel photography is 36 year old company founder and senior partner Dov Charney.

In an Aug. 1, 2004, article for the New York Times Magazine addressing accusations made that American Apparel uses soft core pornography to advertise clothing, columnist Rob Walker wrote, "Charney's view is that it's too simple to say that he is selling sex. He is selling youth culture to young people."

As a result, American Apparel's ads ooze enough sex and youthfulness to rival companies Abercrombie & Fitch, Gap and Urban Outfitters.

In addition to contemporary images, old Penthouse magazine covers line walls throughout the store.

"The only issues we have had are with the older generation. They have issues with the Penthouses," Fatton said.

"I have been shopping at American Apparel since it's beginning," said Cassandra Madsen, a University of Vermont student and employee at American Apparel.

"When I saw the store I said I need to work there," Madsen said.

According to AmericanApparel.net, the store's high-tech Web site, one distinguishing feature of American Apparel is it is sweatshop free and does not outsource work to other countries. Every product is manufactured in its Los Angeles factory, which can produce up to one million shirts per week.

American Apparel also offers employee benefits, such as health care for employees and their families, job security, and paid time off. In addition, the average factory employee salary is \$12.50 an hour.

Fatton says that American Apparel's base pay is \$9 an hour, at least a dollar more than any other retail store. The minimum wage in Vermont is \$7.

"We don't have a lot of stores like this here in Burlington," Madsen said.

Although Burlington, known for being progressive, may seem like a good fit for American Apparel, Robert Letovsky, business department chairman, said the



Photo by Jonah Kessel

Images of amateur models decorate the storeroom of Burlington's American Apparel as Maria Dichiappari of Andover, Mass., shops on Friday, Sept. 23.

company's advertising tactics are not revolutionary.

"Typical Americans see from 3,000 to 10,000 ads per day," Letovsky said. "They are trying to spark controversy and get the

attention of the customer."

Letovsky said extreme advertisements may draw attention to the company, but might not draw customers into the store.

A cause for collection

Clothing drive's mission continues for refugees

By Anna Isabel Jamieson
Staff Writer

After spending 13 years in a Kenyan refugee camp, the Somali-Bantu family of Mohamed Bulle Ibrahim arrived in Burlington with nothing. Yet, because of the work of volunteers, they were provided a few essential possessions, such as clothing and bicycles, to help their transition into a new culture.

Ibrahim and his wife Isha Ali Abdi have seven children. Together they survived the destruction and killing following the fall of the Somali government in 1991, said Lauren Berrizbeitia, a volunteer with the Refugee Resettlement Project and creator of the Refugee Clothing Drive.

Since 2004, when Berrizbeitia started the clothing drive, the United States has resettled about 12,000 Somali Bantu refugees, 300 of whom live in Burlington.

"I read in the paper about the Somali Bantu resettlement and had a strong feeling of wanting to get involved, so I did," Berrizbeitia said.



Photo by Jonah Kessel

Lauren Berrizbeitia sorts through donated shoes in the Refugee Clothing Drive's storage area in Colchester on Friday, Sept. 23.

Berrizbeitia e-mailed everyone in her address book, requesting used clothing for refugees. Many Vermonters responded, including Anne Judson, director of graduate education at St. Michael's. Last winter Judson e-mailed students and faculty asking for warm clothing.

"St. Mike's had a great outpouring," Judson said. She is comforted knowing good quality, warm clothing is going to refugees who have never experienced Vermont winters.

"We were not used to it," said Dalib

Mohamed Bulle, translating for his mother, Abdi.

Arriving in July, Ibrahim's family did not need warm clothes right away. When winter came in 2004, Berrizbeitia was sure to give them the layers they needed.

For other families who arrive during the colder months, having appropriate clothes is an immediate necessity.

Judson helps collect, sort and organize clothing for the Refugee Clothing Drive's storage area in the basement of a Colchester home. She decided to keep the storage

Needed items

- ▶ Men's non-wool coats and toddler's coats
- ▶ Women's long skirts
- ▶ Boy's clothing, sizes 10-14
- ▶ Sneakers of all sizes
- ▶ Non-religious children's' videos
- ▶ VCRs or DVD players

Give donations to Anne Judson at St. Edmund's 310. For more information contact ajudson@smcvt.edu.

area's address private to maintain order of the drive and to deter random drop-offs. Judson said Berrizbeitia often has only a half-hour to identify clothes she needs for incoming refugees.

Even families who have been in Vermont for a while have a hard time affording clothes and other supplies.

"It's hardest for me when rent is so high people can't pay it," Berrizbeitia said. "I worry about that and feel anxious about it."

Ibrahim's family must pay \$1,100 a month for their house with only two minimum-wage incomes.

Berrizbeitia said although she works full-time as a psychotherapist, she still visits the three families she works with.

"I feel like I have new family," she said.

Berrizbeitia encourages students to donate more needed supplies.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Rock 'n' roll lives

Review of the Sept. 15 Pearl Jam show at Montreal's Bell Center

By Jon Stewart
Staff Writer

Nineties alternative rock band Pearl Jam is making its way through a 15 date Canadian tour. On Sept. 15, the band played Montreal's Bell Center on one of its many sold out shows. Opening the two and a half hour set with back to back hits "Release" and "Corduroy," Pearl Jam proved that there will always be a place at the table for grunge rock.

Fourteen years after its first album debut, Pearl Jam's sound is slightly more blues, but the faded flannel, high-intensity rock roots charisma is still present. By adding organ player Boom Gasper to improvise over the band, Pearl Jam put a blues/rock/jam band spin to classics like "Crazy Mary" and "Black." Despite the band's attempts at a slightly different sound, going to a Pearl Jam concert feels like stepping back into 1994.

Its live show continues to change in order to keep each one unique. Between revamping sets for every show, and playing different versions of songs, Pearl Jam always keeps the fans on their toes.

The driving force behind Pearl Jam is the band's spontaneity and explosive energy on stage. Led by front man Eddie Vedder and accompanied by guitarists Stone Gossard and Mike McCready, drummer Matt Cameron, bassist Jeff Ament and Gasper, Pearl Jam kept the high, ecstatic force for the full set of 27 songs and two encores.

Touring without the release of a new album, Pearl Jam covered an array of songs in its catalog.

"It was the best show I've ever seen," said Seth Moczydlowski fan from Troy, N.Y. "They played everything I wanted to hear and then some."

Pearl Jam took the stage laid back and low key with little flaunting of its phenomenal musicianship. It quickly changed pace by turning the volume to 11, the band transformed into madmen with whaling distorted guitars.

The set list included the radio friendly sing-a-longs such as "Betterman," and "Last Kiss," as well as classics like "Even Flow." For diehard fans, Pearl Jam showcased several B-sides such as "Sad" and "Down." By the end of the second encore the house lights went up for a cover of The Who's "Baba o' Reilly" and Pearl Jam's most classic closer "Yellow Ledbetter."

Even though Pearl Jam did not have an elaborate stage and light show like many contemporary bands, the audience did not seem to mind. Powered by the band's unyielding stage presence, and a perfect mix of over driven guitar, heavy drums and powerful vocals, the audience kept its focus for the entire set. Most evident of this was during the first encore when the packed arena waved its fists furiously in unison for McCready's raunchy solo during "Alive."

"My favorite part of the show was when they played 'Alive,'" fan Dan Klug from Madison, Conn. said. "I loved it with everybody pumping their fists because I was rocking out extra hard."

"I've seen Pearl Jam three times and this was my favorite one, and possibly my favorite show ever," said Klug.

In today's musical society

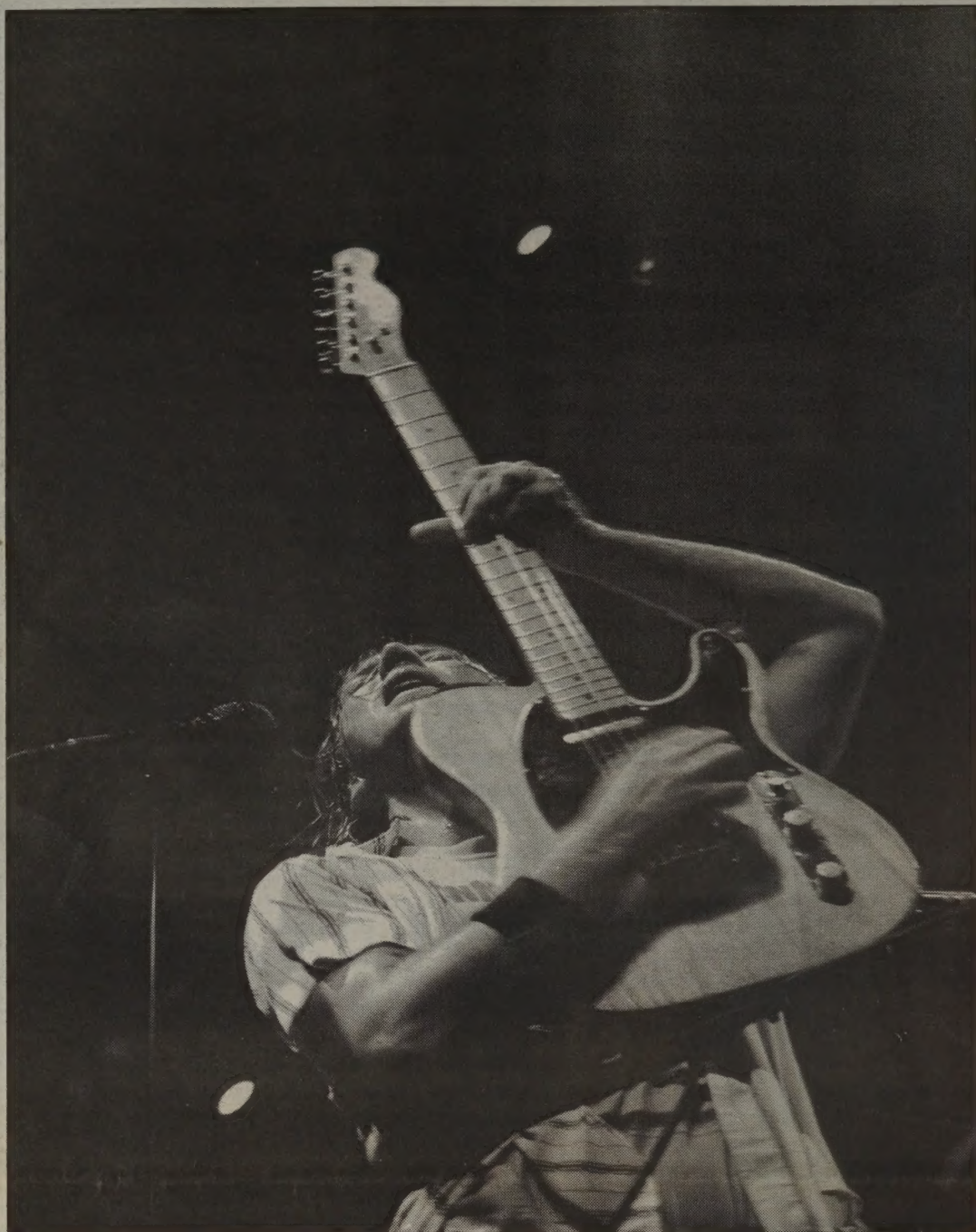


Photo courtesy of Pearl Jam

Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder wails on guitar on Sept. 15, at Montreal's Bell Center.

many bands cover up their lack of musical ability with their over-the-top stages, lights and pyrotechnics. Pearl Jam does what it does best and lets the music do all the talking. There is no substitute for great live music and Pearl Jam is among the dying breed of musi-

cians who know what it means to put on an outstanding live show.

"It's awesome to see a band that's survived since the early nineties without all the glitz and glam of today's bands," Ashlee Flagg of Lunenburg, Mass. said after the show.

Their stint in Montreal was proof that nothing draws the crowds like the energy and musical talent of a great rock band

Deceptive name: 'Constant Gardener' an action-packed drama



By
Courtney Alex
Arts and
Entertainment
Editor



People can be fooled by titles. I was before I saw Fernando Meirelles' film "The Constant Gardener" based on a novel by John Le Carre. Other people were fooled too. When I told friends I was going to see the movie, they sarcastically said "That sounds real interesting."

I expected it to be some sappy love story with the average plot of girl meets guy, guy falls in love with girl, some problem happens but they end up together. These delusions were demolished after viewing it.

Meirelles received Oscar nominations for his distinguishable work on the film "City of God." "The Constant Gardener" may be right behind it in nominations.

Ralph Fiennes, who starred in "Schindler's List," plays the reserved British diplomat Justin Quayle. Justin meets Tessa, played by Rachel Weisz, a spontaneous, outspoken activist. Kudos to the casting director. Both actors played the roles perfectly.

The story is intelligent and displayed in a non-linear form, like a Quentin Tarantino film where the story unfolds out of order.

The first part of the film would be the climax in a typical Hollywood movie. Justin finds out that Tessa has been murdered. From here it goes into flashbacks of how the two met through a political argument. They fall in love and get married. Justin has to go to Kenya on business and Tessa insists she comes. Justin's job is never clarified throughout the film. Pregnant Tessa helps local doctors with AIDS and tuberculosis by befriending Kenyan residents. She

secretly researches scandals involving major pharmaceutical companies that provide medicine for the residents. "Secretly" meaning Justin didn't know about it.

In Justin's grief, he finds evidence of her work and wants to find out who murdered his wife. The film takes you on Justin's journey of dangerous encounters, losing trust among colleagues and friends and his travels through Africa, Amsterdam and various parts of England. This thrilling odyssey keeps your mind going and heart aching for this gentle man. While he was puzzling out pieces, I felt like I was right beside him, just as curious and concerned, rubbing his back.

As for the ending, it was unexpected and unsettling.

Another valuable part of this film was that it showed realistic events occurring in Africa. It showed the everyday struggle of AIDS, tuberculosis and the horrible treatment. It saddened me that it took Hollywood films like this and "Hotel Rwanda" to inform our country of real life issues.

Here are a few recommendations before viewing this film. Make sure you don't have any plans after watching it. I felt empty and solemn. It was the first time I attended a film where the audience was noticeably silent. It was like people didn't know whether to cry or clap.

I also recommend going either alone or with someone that is well-prepared for the after effects. I went with a friend and we were so blown away by the screening that we were speechless. We felt like we had to save the world right then.

I urge people of any age to see "The Constant Gardener." The cinematography is outstanding and the acting is brilliant.

Some reviews have put the film down because it isn't as thrilling as it sounds on advertisements. I would describe it not only as a thriller but also as a drama, action-packed, informative love story.

Just remember, don't ever judge a book by its cover. Gardening was the last thing on my mind when I left the theater.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

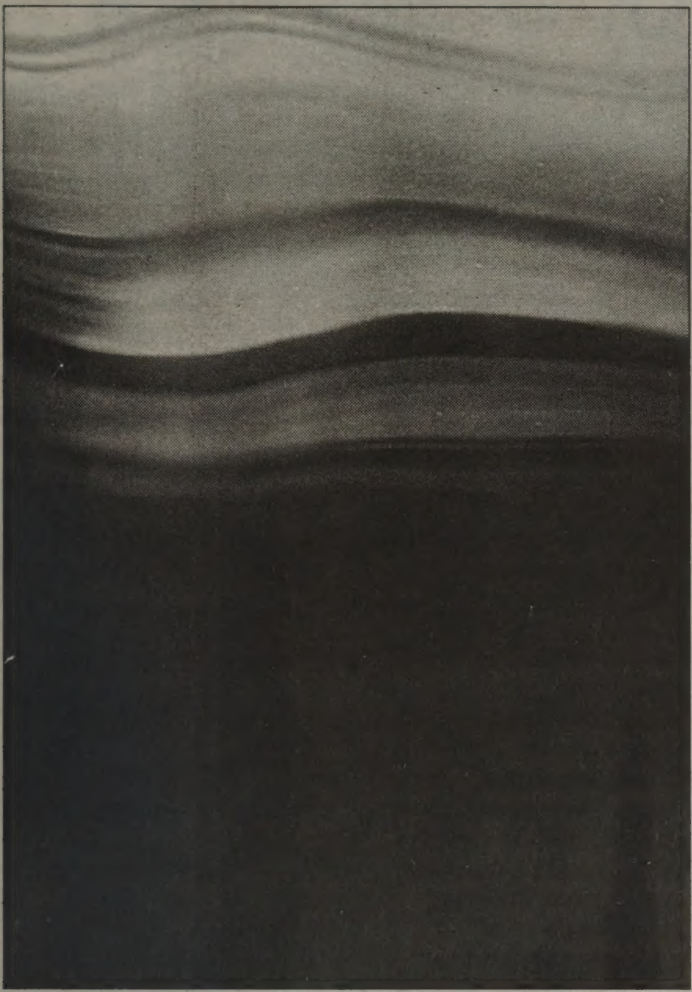


Photo By Mike Morris

Photographer Mike Morris' friend opens the refrigerator door.



Photo By Mike Morris

A lith print of an abandoned building in Northbridge, Mass. Mike Morris is a leader of the photography club.

Photographers unite

St. Michael's Photography Club searches for members to join

By Jordan Raymond
Staff Writer

The popularity of the Introduction to Photography class has grown tremendously in the past two years, yet the photography club is still searching for members to join.

The club has two meetings in the Alliot lounge every month offered to photographers of any level. Club leader Sam Chabot hopes that members will "learn from each other."

Chabot is joined by co-leaders sophomore Deirdre Kreckel and junior Mike Morris, who hope to create a productive and fun year for all members.

Projects this year include a magazine of students photo work, head shots for theater majors, a photo contest and field trips to be determined by members. A workshop in New York City on photo documentation will be open for interested students.

To join the club, all a student has to bring is paper and film.

Equipment is available to anyone in the club. Extra cameras, tripods, light meters, flashes, and accessories can all be found in Klein Hall.

Sophomore Renee Baillargeon says she has been interested in photography since her grandfather gave her a camera when she was 16. She joined the introductory photography class this semester after being on the wait list last year and said she's enjoying it. Adjunct professor Jordan Douglas brought up the club in class

and said the great facilities and equipment would be lost if more interest didn't come up.

Douglas described the photography club as, the "big seed that gave birth to the photography classes." Without the photography club, there would be no equipment or purchases in the future. He said most students find it hard to make time for things that aren't a requirement, but the interest is in his classes.

Club adviser and school counselor Linda Hollingdale be-

gan the club after '04 graduate Jessica Rotkiewicz came to her with the idea. Rotkiewicz spoke with President Marc and Dona vanderHeyden who decided to fund a darkroom in Sloane Hall in 2003.

Hollingdale said she and the officers want to broaden the aspects of the group this year by getting students involved in digital work and visiting exhibits of different works.

The next meeting of the club will be held Sept. 29 in the Alliot

Musical fund raising

St. Michael's hosts concert to benefit New Orleans

By Jon Taylor
Staff Writer

Annemieke Spoelstra and Dale Henderson performed a hurricane relief concert on Sept. 16 to benefit the Bishop Perry Middle School in New Orleans. Spoelstra, a professor in the fine arts department, organized the concert. Donations from the evening equaled about \$700.

"I felt I had to do something," Spoelstra said.

The concert consisted of Spoelstra on piano and Henderson on the cello. The duo played three compositions, some of which included solo portions of Henderson performing on his

cello.

"I tried to pick something spectacular with emotions expressing grief and sadness, but also hope," Spoelstra said after the performance.

Senior Hannah Edwards was impressed by the performance.

"I thought it was amazing," Edwards said. "It was perfectly fitting for the cause."

Spoelstra, a native of Holland, teaches piano at St. Michael's and has performed at other events on campus.

According to the pamphlet handed out at the performance, Henderson "made his professional debut at the age of thirteen with the Buffalo Philharmonic." Henderson now lives in Boston

and made the trip up to Vermont to perform.

There were approximately 50 people in the audience, mostly comprised of adults and a few students.

"I wished for a better turnout, not just for the cause, but for the performers, but it is a Friday night," said the Rev. David Cray.

According to an e-mail from Cray, the Bishop Perry Middle School "was not flooded and sustained virtually no wind damage, no vandalism and no looting," but donations were being collected to help school administrators find students who were displaced by Katrina and maintain the school in its aftermath.

During intermission, Cray



Photo by Emily Heffernan

Annemieke Spoelstra and Dale Henderson perform at a hurricane relief concert in McCarthy Art's Center on Sept. 16.

spoke about the current situation in New Orleans.

"Katrina took the lid off the can and we see something we'd rather not know about," Cray said.

"Our challenge is to not put the lid back on the poverty, racism, and hurt, and heal the wounds of this tragedy."

COLUMNS

Botswana Independence Day: A joyous celebration

Sept. 30 marks the most fantastic event that ever happened to Botswana, my home country. It will be marking its 39th year as an independent nation.

Celebrations are not all about barbecues, midnight meals, relaxation or even the spark of lights. No fireworks during Independence Day in Botswana.

Instead, the celebration is carried out in style. Students in an organized manner will gather at kgotla [tribal court] where dignitaries including government officials and the tribal chiefs will be present. Many cows, goats and

chickens will be slaughtered and everyone will have a share of the feast: young and old, the poor and the rich.

COLUMNS
EDITOR



Thato
Ratsebe

Traditional dancers will entertain crowds with their best moves. Poets will stand up to praise their chiefs, presidents or the bride of the day, Botswana. Understand, this is not just written poetry, it is art at its best. Botswana women stand up to ululate

as the men whistle. In the capital, there will be morning prayer at the national stadium to remember the chiefs who fought for this joyous day and to ask God to heal the nation of the scourge of AIDS.

Messages of hope, love and joy will be broadcast through the national radio station. Some radio stations will open lines to allow callers to express their gratitude for this day and the people who made it possible. Messages of condolence will be sent out to those who are burying their dead. I send message of comfort to those. Overfilled hospitals will organize celebrations for the

sick. Businesses will donate gifts to the sick in hospital. Neighbors will share dishes, randomly stopping by without prior notice.

To an ordinary Motswana, this means a lot. How I miss that. Kudos to our great-grandparents, who courageously fought for our independence. We now have free access to education, health facilities, even though it's not the best. We are considered a commonwealth country and we have the right to speak. Corruption is at a minimal hopefully will diminish.

As I wish Botswana a happy birthday, I urge its leaders to guard against the spirit of cor-

ruption, the spirit of dictatorship and find better ways of improving communication between leadership and citizens. I cannot absolutely turn away my eye from the malfunctions of the ruling party, Botswana Democratic Party. Botswana citizens should stand up, know their rights and speak against any ill treatment.

My heart is bubbling with joy when I think of the beauty independence brought to Botswana. Happy Birthday, Botswana. I shall be thinking of you.

Contact Thato Ratsebe at tratsbe@smcvt.edu

Accidental journey

All those who know me are aware of the fact that I almost didn't make it to St. Michael's. I heard of SMC from my best friend, and I applied without visiting the college. I sent my deposit to Alfred University in upstate New York.

Now, I know you're wondering "So then, why are you here?" Well, one night my friend gave me this whole spiel about all the things she didn't like about Alfred. She also mentioned everything she knew about St. Mike's and she believed I would love the school. Putting all my faith in her convictions, I woke up the next morning, called St.

GUEST
COLUMNIST



Carolina
Guzman

Mike's and asked if I could still send in my deposit (it was after May 1). The next day I mailed a check to St. Michael's.

Living in Vermont I've found myself having to get used to a different culture or lack thereof. As a Hispanic young woman raised in New York City, I've been exposed to so many people. These people come from different ethnic groups, races, nationalities, religions, cultures and social backgrounds. In Vermont I am not exposed to the multiculturalism that I'm used to and that has been such an integral part of my life. However, over the past two years I've come to realize that although there is not as much cultural diversity as there is in NYC, everyone is unique and has something different to offer.

As a first-year student, I remember having a lot of issues with time management. I felt I didn't have time to do anything! With four classes, homework, work-study, and being involved in clubs, I found myself praying for more hours in the day. By midsemester, I recall thinking that I wasn't going to make it. I felt I couldn't juggle the heavy workload with my social life.

Professors and upperclassmen advised me to go to the Student Resource Center. When I arrived back on campus after the October break, I went to see Linda Hollingdale. I explained to her what was going on and she gave me such helpful advice pertaining to time-management. We continued to meet weekly and I gradually started adjusting to the feverish pace of college life.

I had to adjust to the brutal Vermont winters. In NYC, the winters are cold, but not this cold! I am not looking forward to the long walk from the 400s to the academic buildings when it's minus 40 degrees.

Even though I've had all these things to adjust to, I'm enjoying college life to the fullest, and everyone here is willing to help me in my goal to do that. Most, if not all, faculty and staff are always there to lend a helping hand. Moreover there are upperclassmen, just like me, who are willing to share their stories and advice in order for you to get the most out of your four years here.

I often wonder how my life would have been different if I had not been able to send that \$500 check to St. Michael's. But I can't seem to fathom the idea of my life if that would have happened. I have met so many wonderful people, students, faculty and staff, who I know will forever be a part of my life. And so, I am thankful every day for the opportunity of being a part of the Class of 2007 of St. Michael's College.

Contact Carolina at cguzman@smcvt.edu

Is St. Michael's becoming a police state?

An increased police presence has many St. Michael's students concerned about their freedom.

It's the second week of the '06 academic year at St. Michael's. I've been working 40 hours a week bartending, and I'm feeling the pressure of being overburdened with school work.

Like a good college student I decide it's time to hit up the library. Time passes as I finish up multiple assignments and eventually a saving voice booms over the intercom, "The library will be closing in 15 minutes." Visions of pillows and feather-down comforters flash in my mind. I load up my books and head home.

As I pull into the back parking lot of Zone A, I am greeted by the presence of two Colchester police cars. The officers are outside of their cars and appear to be discussing,

GUEST
COLUMNIST



Brian
Branon

"cop-ly matters." I park my car, grab my backpack and head to my townhouse. By the time I reach my door, Security has joined the two cops and three uniformed officers stand talking in front of a nearby trash bin.

Whenever most people see a cop car they immediately pay attention. They start thinking, "Did I remember to use my blinker? Are all of my lights functioning properly?" and things of that nature. So to see cops out by our trash bin, I had a feeling something was up. It just made me wonder: Have other students been noticing an increased level of Colchester police on campus as well?

According to the director of safety and security at St. Michael's, Peter Soons, we have a great relationship with the Colchester police.

"The Colchester Police have always been here, and Security will call them when they need their assistance," he said. "The roads that run through our campus are public, and we are in the state of Vermont. We must abide by the laws of this state and so, the Colchester police have jurisdiction over parts of our campus."

I am not trying to make personal attacks at Soons, or Security. I am only questioning whether the routine Colchester police presence is helping to keep our community safe or hurting the image of our community on the outside.

I hate to dig up bones of the past, but issuing 101 citations last P-Day is a good example of possibly overdoing the safety bit. Numerous students have personal accounts of Colchester police coming into the dormitories and issuing underage-drinking citations. The legalities of that event are not perfectly clear, but in the words of Soons, "The police can not go into residence halls unless exigent circumstances arise and Security calls them in."

And so it remains to be seen what events will occur this coming year with the presence of the Colchester police. However, I warn everyone to be careful, because with our \$33,330-a-year tuition cost, who can afford a ticket?

Contact Brian Branon at branon@smcvt.edu

You thought AIM was addictive ... try Facebook.com

It is finally here. That exciting program that all your friends have been raving about at other colleges while you were left dwindling with some imitation "College Facebook." Yes, I suppose the students can rejoice now that the real deal has finally made its presence on our campus.

I do not have a Facebook.com profile. Yes, I am sorry, I am a heathen. I think, however, it gives me a little advantage. What you will read is what other people have said who *do* have profiles. I will just be here offering my two cynical cents every other line.

It probably took about three hours before The Facebook craze evolved into the addiction. "Even though I said I wouldn't, I definitely go on it way more than I thought I would," remarked one student. That is probably one of the most common

statements I have recently heard. It has apparently become just so addictive that students put off studying, work and even getting to class on time to scope out the updates. Yes, that might sound a little sad, but seriously, who doesn't want to be the first to join a *sweet* group like Vote for Pedro or an even keener one like I love juiceboxes?

"It really is just a game," remarked one anonymous student. "It is a game to see how many friends you can tally up."

This same student commented on the importance of the message wall. Now this is a vital one. "It is bragging opportunities. You want people to leave tons of messages on your wall so other people know you have friends who think you are cool." Very important messages mind you, with brief statements like "balls." That was on a friend's wall. Another student commented on the wall by saying, "I do not know why I bother because, anyone who I would want to leave messages for I would use Instant Messenger anyway." This is probably, once again, for the

sheer exhibition bonus of showing off your coolness to your friends.

So how do you explain this addiction to those uneducated ones? It begins with visiting one of your friends' profiles. You read their wall, leave a message, browse their friends, browse their friend's friends, view their groups, view the groups of their friends, browse the schools where your friend's friends go and before you know it you have just killed two hours. It is a good tool for those necessary times that you dread, such as sitting in a work-study office.

There should be help for those who cannot pull away. Maybe we can create a sort of AA group for Facebook addicts and simply call it FAA. Just remember, in those moments of desperation when you find yourself pulling away from Plato to read the next "balls" statement on your wall, recall the kind words of our former first lady Nancy Reagan: "Just say no."

Contact Ron DeRosa at rderosa@smcvt.edu

CALENDAR

28
Wednesday

Drama. "Beyond Therapy" by Christopher Durang, showing at UVM theater department. A dramatic story of two people who met through a personals ad. It doesn't work out, but they do like one another. They end up humming their favorite song, "Someone to Watch Over Me" together. Through Oct. 9. Single tickets on sale at UVM box office. For tickets, visit www.uvmtheatre.org.

Comedy. An "unorthodox" night of comedy with Bob Alpher, rabbi, Vermonter and stand up-comedian. Benefit performance for the ACLU of Vermont. 5:30 to 7 p.m. Parima Thai Restaurant, 185 Pearl St. \$25 admission include Thai hors d'oeuvres. Tickets at (802)-223-6304

Latin rock. Featuring brothers Henry, Jojo and Ringo Garza of Texas, the trio "Los Lonely Boys" went from being a regional bar band to national favorites, seemingly overnight. The group mixes driving blues-rock, Latin rhythms and impeccable harmonies in a spicy musical stew. Burlington Memorial Auditorium with dance rockers Los Amigos Invisibles. 7:30 p.m. \$37.

Socialize. Join the School of International Studies for coffee and culture exchange in the St. Edmund's foyer. 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.

29
Thursday

Concert. Higher Ground present the lead guitarist for JD & The Straight Shot by night, and Jim Dolan chairman of Madison Square Garden and president and CEO of Cablevision System Corporations by day. Show Lounge. Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. \$8 advance and \$10 day of show. <http://www.jdandthe-straightshot.com>

30
Friday

Men for sale. Bachelor Auction Fundraiser. Ten of Vermont's most eligible bachelors will be auctioned off! 8 p.m. 176 S. Winslow Ave. Burlington. Tickets \$10 at the door. To benefit Vermont Chapter of The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Piano competition. The Lane Series presents The University of Vermont UVM recital hall. Sept. 30. Friday. 7:30 p.m. \$25 full price. Twelfth annual Van Cliburn international piano competition Crystal award winner. Sa Chen.

Modern bluegrass. Higher Ground presents Nickel Creek with Leona Naess, 8 p.m. Sept. 30

'Resident Alien'

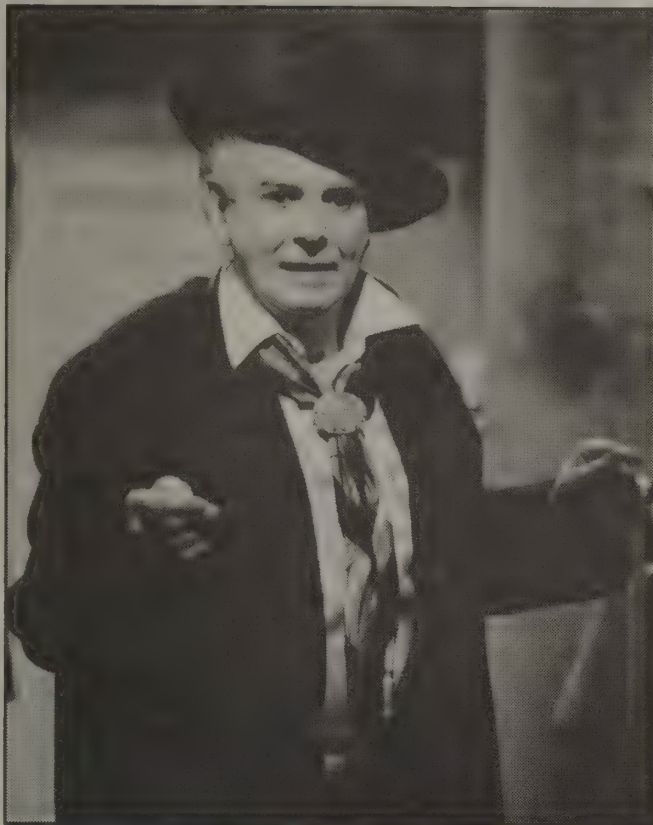


Photo courtesy of the Flynn

One man play by British actor Bettie Bourne depicts the life of author and eccentric Quentin Crisp. Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at the FlynnSpace. \$25.

and Oct 1. Higher Ground Ballroom, South Burlington, \$23, \$25. 652-0777, or www.higherground-music.com.

Jazz. Back by popular demand, DownBeat's No. 1 rising star acoustic jazz group, The Bad

Plus returns to rock the Flynn Space with mostly their own compositions at 8 p.m. \$22 adults, \$18 students.

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1
Saturday

Music. Higher Ground presents the three southern Californians, Nickel Creek. Showcase Lounge. Doors open at 7 p.m. and show starts at 7:30 p.m. \$12 advance, \$15 day of the show.

2
Sunday

Photo exhibit. St. Michael's College presents photographs by Daniel Morel, co-producer of "Unfinished Country," a film about Haiti's struggle to create democracy, in the foyer of the Durick Library.

Walk for Haiti. Seven miles along the bike path from Oakledge Park in Burlington to North Beach and back. Register at 9 a.m. and walk at 10 a.m. to raise funds for the small village of Petit Bourg. For more information, contact Kathleen Balutansky at 654-2640.

Musical. Hilarious celebration of women and the change, "Menopause" shows at the Flynn Center for Performing Arts, 153 Main St., Burlington. Tickets on sale at the Flynntix regional box office. Charge by phone, 863-5966 or order online at www.flynnitix.org.

MOVE events

- Correctional volleyball 6 to 8 p.m., Sept. 28
- Burlington After-School Games, 3 to 5 p.m., Sept. 29
- Senior Citizens Bingo, 5:45 to 8 p.m. Sept. 29
- Cause for Paws, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Sept. 30
- Serve-A-Thon, Oct. 1

Contact MOVE at 654-2674

At 3 and 6:30 p.m.

3
Monday

Film. St. Michael's College presents "Unfinished Country" in St. Edmund's Hall Farrell Room at 7 p.m. The film examines Haiti's democracy struggle as Haiti prepares for its November presidential elections. Information at <http://www.wozoproductions.org>.

4
Tuesday

Lecture. Confronting Tragedy and Suffering in the classroom: faculty and staff join heads to share feelings, experiences and thoughts about Hurricane Katrina and Beyond. Noon. St. Edmund's Hall, Farrel Room.



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OUTDOORS

An introduction to the Wilderness

Wilderness program offers introductory courses for those looking to get outdoors

By Kim Bookless
Staff Writer

It was 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 3, and a group of seven students sat in front of the Alliot fireplace munching on Clif Bars. They were breaking the normal weekend routine of most college students, choosing a day of sea kayaking over a few extra hours of sleep.

Two student leaders, seniors Ethan Bodin and Heather McFarland, joined them at this early hour. These leaders and students, along with assistant director of the Wilderness Program and '04 St. Michael's graduate Mark Oldmixon, were participating in "Sea Kayaking: BSR (Basic Strokes and Rescue)", one of the many introductory courses offered through the Wilderness Program.

The Wilderness Program was developed by director Todd Wright after he graduated from St. Michael's in 1996. The Wilderness Program started as the Outdoor Recreation Resource without much equipment and few options for outdoor activities. After a year, it was renamed and given \$30,000 to buy equipment.

Today, The Wilderness Program runs a variety of trips including whitewater kayaking, rock climbing, sea kayaking, ice climbing, mountaineering and hiking.

First-year Deirdre Collins attended the Wilderness Orientation Week and described it as,

"an amazing experience." She decided to pursue more trips once she got to school.

All students are encouraged to get involved in The Wilderness Program. No prior experience is necessary. Wright said that when the Wilderness Program first started, many students thought it was for the more "outdoor inclined". Wright said he and Oldmixon created an "anybody can do this" culture.

Some students worry about their fitness level or the risk involved in some of the activities. Oldmixon's advice for students is to "just squeak out of your comfort zone" by going on a basic hike or climbing the indoor rock wall.

While the Wilderness Program does everything it can to ensure the safety of students, Wright reminds students that all risks cannot be removed.

"Life's dangerous," Wright said. "That's the way it is. Life has inherent risks. We frontload safety."

One of the best advantages of the Wilderness Program is the inexpensive cost of the trips. Trips can range anywhere from \$5 for day hikes, to \$60 for two-day whitewater kayaking trips and are payable by Knight Card, as well as by cash or check. Non-students are allowed to participate and register for a course but are charged a greater fee. Most kayak courses for students cost \$25 for a non-student to go on a trip it



Photo by Kim Bookless

Boston College student Riley McLean and sophomore Tom Lanagan on a wilderness program basic strokes and rescue kayak clinic on Lake Champlain.

would cost \$145. Many students who have gone abroad pay up to three times as much for the same types of activities and the quality they receive is sub-par in terms of leadership and equipment, Wright said.

Not only are the trips affordable on a college budget, but students are receiving education by leaders who have been trained to national standards.

The equipment rented to students is included in the price of the trip and is top of the line.

Sophomore Conor Driscoll

participated in a Wilderness Orientation Week trip last year before becoming a leader. He now leads hiking trips and hopes to lead rock climbing trips in the future.

"I liked it so much, I wanted to become a leader so I could help other people have the same experience and because it looked so fun," Driscoll said.

The directors are trying to encourage students to get involved sooner rather than later. Some students have signed up for trips as far in January. After kayaking, Collins said she would

definitely go on another trip.

"It was a little difficult at first, but it was tons of fun once I got the hang of it," Collins said. "I want to get my friends into kayaking. The leaders were helpful and made the trip an enjoyable experience."

With its team of dedicated directors and leaders and an enthusiastic student population, the Wilderness Program hopes to provide excellence in leadership, equipment and training for everyone desiring a unique, enjoyable outdoor experience.

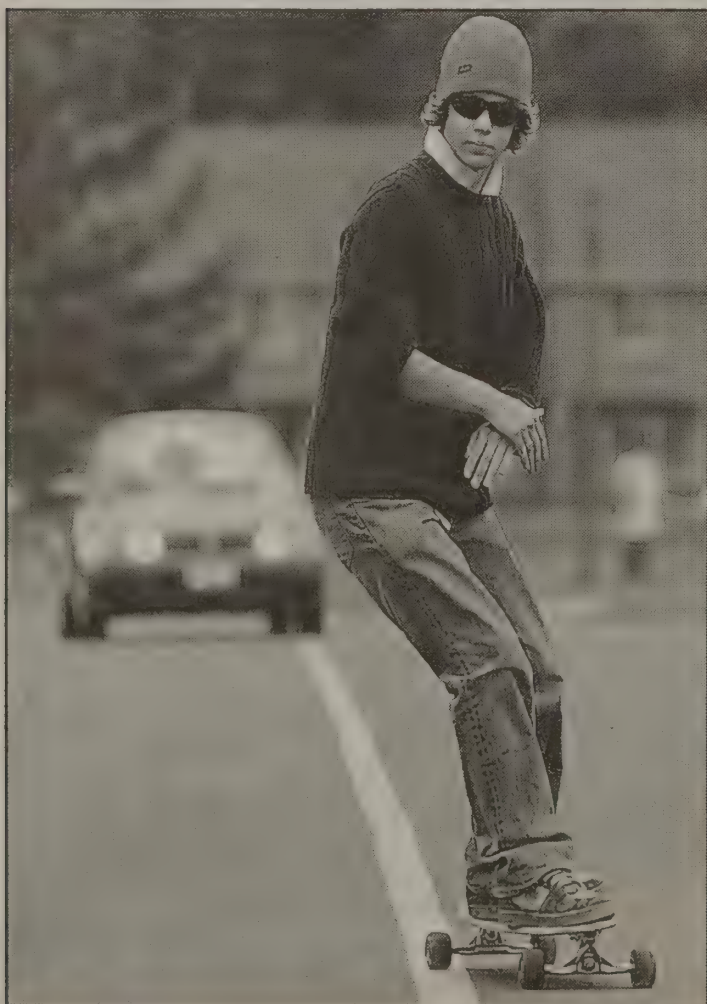


Photo by Jonah Kessel

First-year longboarder Ollie Smith cruises the roads of St. Michael's.

Popular form of skateboarding is long on fun

Longboarders take over the roads of St. Michael's

By Mary Lyon
Staff writer

Cruising to class and carving down hills is a trend many students are taking up in longboarding. These boards, that are longer than traditional skateboards, are gaining popularity fast.

"It seems like everybody's getting into it," junior Pete Miller said. Longboarding is quickly becoming the new trend, especially on college campuses, as many kids use them as their main mode of transportation.

Brian Hartel, an employee at Ridin' High, a skateboard shop at 2 Pearl Street in Burlington, sees popularity with longboarding among college kids.

A free shuttle runs twice an hour on College Street, acting as a type of "ski lift" for these longboarders looking to avoid walking up hills before their decent.

Miller uses his longboard mostly for cruising around campus. "I occasionally go out to some housing developments out on Dorset Street to carve it up," Miller said. "They've got some nice hills out there."

St. Michael's sophomore Colin Boyd uses his longboard mostly for transportation. He said there's a big downside to riding for transportation. "You don't get much respect from cars," Boyd said.

Both Miller and Boyd prefer their longboards to regular skateboards because of the added length and stability the longboard provides. With a longboard, you can achieve "epic speeds," according to Boyd. Longboarding style is different from that usually associated with the skateboard crowd, being more in line with surfer atmosphere. Miller sees it as a more "laid back style."

Since tricks are much easier to perform on a shorter board, longboards are used mainly for coasting around. "It's a good way for snowboarders to stay in shape in the off-season," Hartel said.

The more "laid back style" of longboarding opens the door for a large crowd to get involved. To Miller, this style seems to, "put a new face on skateboarding, making it more accessible to the general public."

For those itching to give it a try, they can demo boards at Ridin' High. They specialize in longboards, ranging in price from \$80 to a couple hundred. Talking directly to the source by stopping one of the many kids cruising around campus may be the best way to learn about the activity.

OUTDOORS



Photo by Jonah Kessel

The North Face store's walls are lined with outdoor gear from jackets to backpacks.

Get in gear for the outdoors

Prepare for any season at Burlington's outdoor stores

By Allen Briggs
Outdoors Editor

Vermont offers outdoor activities for every season. However, many activities require an extensive collection of gear that can take a toll on a college student's bank account.

The Burlington area has stores specializing in gear for most outdoor adventures. These stores help customers buy the necessities.

Burlington's **Outdoor Gear Exchange** on Cherry Street has a broad range of new and used outdoor gear from telemark skis to backpacks.

"What sets us apart is that we are a consignment shop at heart," employee Ryan Ruddy said.

A large selection of used gear makes the Outdoor Gear Exchange a choice for cheaper gear.

"We're all a big family here and it comes through in the store," Ruddy said. The store has "good music and good atmosphere." Don't be surprised if a dog walks by when you are shopping; the Outdoor Gear Exchange is pet-friendly as well.

The **North Face** store on College Street is one of the largest North Face dealer in New England according to co-owner Will Vinci. Since 1968, The North Face has offered gear from jackets to button-up shirts for outdoor enthusiasts.

"There is something for everyone," Vinci said. "From casual everyday wear to outfitting Everest expeditions."

Vinci said college students are a large part of their clientele, but their demographics reach anyone from age six to 70.

The hot items for college students are fleece and soft-shell jackets.

The North Face also has a full-time sponsored athlete di-

vision ranging from skiers to mountaineers.

At **Climb High** on Bank Street in downtown Burlington, the name says it all. At Climb High, rock and ice climbing gear reaches to the ceiling. However, the store is not just for die-hard climbers.

"We have anything you need for camping out to hiking trips," employee and 2005 St. Michael's graduate Aimee Ahari said. "We have college kids that just need help figuring out what jacket will keep them warm."

Ahari said Climb High carries mostly top-of-the-line gear she described as a high end and durable product. Popular products this year are tents, climbing gear and soft-shell jackets.

"Our stuff is more expensive because of the quality and construction," manager Judy Eaton said.

Although it sells expensive gear, Climb High offers non-functional apparel as well. According to Eaton, it is the only Carhartt dealer in Burlington. Climb High also has a store in Shelburne.

North Star Sports on Main Street in Burlington can help with biking needs. Road bikes, mountain bikes and BMX bikes are all available in the store. A knowledgeable staff can help pick out the right bike for every need.

An in-store full-service shop can help with a flat tire to a complete overhaul, sales associate Chris Pascucci said.

North Star Sports is not limited to biking. They have clothing for all seasons. With winter coming, North Star Sports will expand its selection of snow gear like telemark skis, Nordic skis and snowshoes.

"We are more close-knit," Pascucci said referring to the atmosphere. "We are a mom and pop shop."

Eastern Mountain Sports in South Burlington is part a retail chain of about 85 stores. They sell outdoor products for all seasons. Enjoy kayaking in the summer? Eastern Mountain Sports can help. Want to try snow-kiting on frozen Lake Champlain? They have kites too.

Customers will enjoy, "our staff, product knowledge and attention to customers," assistant manager Polly Gibson said. Their customers range from, "people getting into the outdoors to the experts."

A large footwear and sock selection will keep feet happy in all seasons. Thule racks can keep your gear organized and the selection climbing gear can help customers get their vertical fix.

The store sells other manufacturer's products, but has its own design team that develops Eastern Mountain Sports' products.

"Comparing prices, our price points are going to be a little less," Gibson said. Competitive pricing is a plus for college students.

Eastern Mountain Sports sells snowboards, telemark skis and snowshoes for winter transportation.

"I buy a lot of rock climbing equipment and winter apparel," junior Ian Guertin said. "I either go to OGE (Outdoor Gear Exchange) or Climb High. I prefer to go to OGE because I like the atmosphere and they have a really big selection of stuff."

St. Michael's students have plenty of options when outfitting themselves for their favorite outdoor activity. A trip to Burlington may help make venturing outdoors a more enjoyable experience.

A fly new club on campus

Fly-fishing club started at SMC

By Jessica St. Clair
Staff Writer

While some students head back to the dorms after class, sophomore Dillon Klepetar chooses to wade knee-deep in the Winooski River to fly-fish. It is because of his love for the sport that he has established a new fly-fishing club on campus.

The club has been well received by the student body.

"I expected 15, maybe 20 people to show up to the first meeting, but there were about 50 that came," Klepetar said.

The club is still open to new members of any skill level.

"I took the fly-fishing freshman seminar and really enjoyed it, so I thought I'd join the club," sophomore Alyssa Fitzpatrick said.

Klepetar is afraid the expense of the hobby might deter students from the sport.

"It's tough financially," Klepetar said. "No college student is going to be willing to spend all the money just to try it."

Fly-fishing equipment costs roughly \$500 for starters. The club is turning to the S.A. for a budget, which will be used to buy rods, fishing line and other equipment for members.

Fly-fishing is different than traditional hook and lure style. When using a conventional casting rod the fisherman place bait or a lure onto a specific spot in the water and let it linger.

With fly-fishing, the rod is pliable and after casting, is used with a flicking motion, moving the fly-lure quickly from one spot to another.

"When you're fly-fishing, the line is always completely out unlike traditional fishing when some is still on the spool," Klepetar said.

"The point is to try and imitate flies with the back and forth motion, that's why it's called fly-fishing," he said.

This technique makes it

Quick tips for beginners:

- Be patient
- Practice off the river
- Do your entomology homework
- Learn to tie flies, it will save you money
- Join the club

more difficult to learn than traditional fishing. "There is an artistic element to it," Klepetar said.

Vermont's lakes and rivers allow for great opportunities to fly-fish. The Winooski River and the New Haven River are the only places Klepetar would reveal.

"If you become a member then you can find out the best places," he said laughing.

Klepetar hopes to get the new club out on a few trips before the season ends in October. Getting the club up and running has been difficult.

Political science professor, William Grover helped form the club and is acting as its advisor.

"Hopefully next year when all the details are taken care of there will be more opportunities to get out and actually fish," Grover said.

Fly-fishing has steadily gained popularity on campus through Grover's first-year seminar program, "A river runs through it: the literature and craft of fly-fishing." The course is only offered in the fall semester due to weather, but it has been a success.

Students read a variety of books, learn to tie flies and learn how to fly-fish on field trips.

"The whole point of the class is to help students understand the environment and hopefully become committed to protecting it," Grover said.

Climbing wall information

- Hours: Mon-Thurs. 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- Location: Tarrant Recreation Center
- No experience necessary
- No fee
- All equipment is provided
- Climbers will learn knots and proper belay techniques
- For question call the Wilderness Program at ext. 2614

SPORTS

Tough start only allows room for improvement

With 10 of 14 conference games remaining, women's volleyball needs to win with young roster

By Haven Quinn
Sports Editor

With an 0-4 start, a second year head coach a new assistant coach and six first-year players, the playoffs may be out of reach for the women's volleyball team.

However, sophomore captain Kelsey Kobelt said there's no reason the team shouldn't make the playoffs.

"We have the talent to get there," Kobelt said. "We just have to come together and play as a team."

Games are played in best of five matches. The team made progress, winning its first match of the season against UMass Lowell on Saturday, although they lost the game.

"We really showed improvement," Kobelt said.

The addition of six first-year players gives the team a full roster and allows them to practice with a full squad on both sides of the court.

"All of the first-years bring a positive attitude," senior Kailtyn Rae said. "We have a lot of athleticism and a strong mentality that we haven't seen from a team in a long time."

First-year Amy Manougian said that with such a young team it takes time to get used to playing together. Even though the team had a rough opening, the attitude is still positive.

"We have improvements to

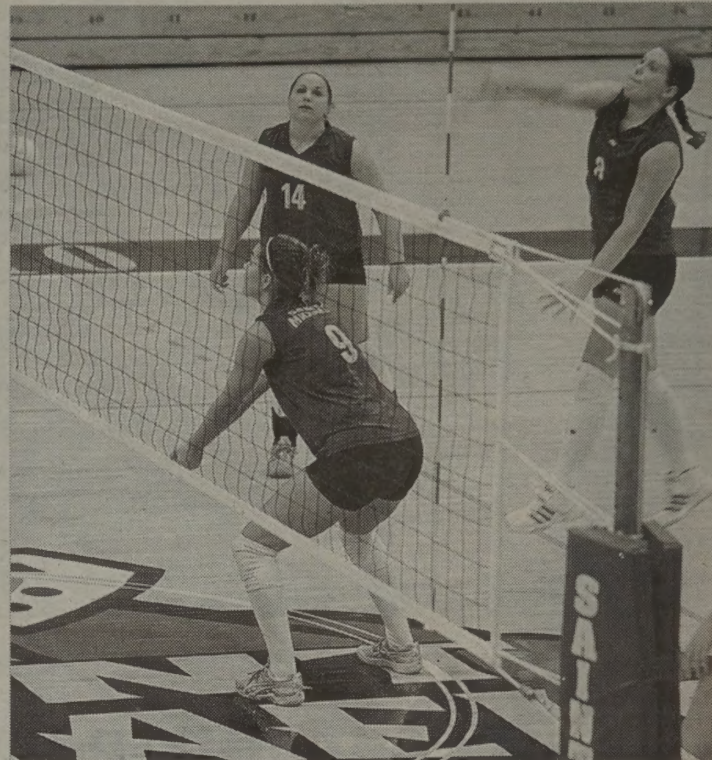


First-year Justine Fletcher tries to spike the ball past volunteer first-year assistant Coach Chris Kilmer

make," Manougian said, "but you have to start somewhere to go up."

"We can't really focus ahead," Coach Emily Verbridge

said. "We have a lot of veterans and a lot of first-years. We have been missing some girls recently for personal reasons, so with them back we will work off a



Photos by Jonah Kessel

Sophomore No. 8 Leslie Herwig hits a ball during practice.

First-year players

Audrey Rose Hagert - # 2
Stephanie Bambury - # 9
Amy Manougian - # 14
Stephanie Smetana - # 6
Justine Fletcher - # 10
Jeanne Nauheimer - #15

coming from the team.

"We all get along really well," DeGrazia said. "We are a good group of girls and everyone is working really hard to get better. Everyone is stepping up at different times and in different roles."

With a big stretch of conference games left, the Lady Knights will need to come together quickly to keep their playoff hopes alive.

clean slate."

Sophomore Tina DeGrazia said she sees a lot of good things

New tennis coach looks to revamp

By Brian Wadlinger
Staff Writer

A 2002 St. Michael's graduate, Kevin Lizzo has taken over for the previous men's tennis coach.

With the season already underway, Lizzo is expected to do some great things on the tennis court for the team.

"We don't want to just make the playoffs," Lizzo said. "We want to have a higher seed so we don't have to play either one of the top two teams in the first round."

The sixth coach in team history, Lizzo was a four year member of the

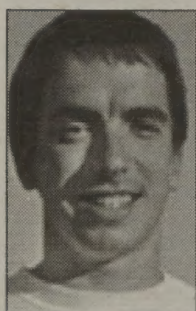


Photo by Pete Vancini.
New men's tennis coach, Kevin Lizzo.

"This past summer I was also the pro for Burlington Tennis Club," Lizzo said.

Along with his work at these clubs, he worked as the Assistant Varsity, and head Junior Varsity tennis

"We don't want to just make the playoffs. We want to have a higher seed..."

Kevin Lizzo,
men's tennis coach

coach at Burlington High School.

Associate Athletic Director Chris Kenny said there are advantages and disadvantages of hiring such a young coach.

Kenny said a young coach has "energy and enthusiasm for the game, the ability to relate well to the student-athletes and to understand what they are going through both personally, academically and athletically; are all things he can bring here."

"I see the biggest challenge for Kevin as for any young coach, being the ability to make the separation that a head coach has to make from his or her student-athletes, to be the voice of authority when it's needed," Kenny said.

"We were impressed with his tennis resume and his obvious passion for the game and for teaching," Kenny said. "We also thought it was very valuable that he is a graduate of St. Michael's and played here for four

years. He was a team captain. So he brings a lot of intangibles to his position on our staff."

Lizzo has been warmly accepted by his players, they had many good things to say about their new coach.

"He has a good attitude and he is very energetic; He's a fun guy to be around," first-year John Lescure said.

Looking to battle back from a 5-8 record last season, Lizzo and his team will have to win games that slipped away.

Lizzo has a very positive outlook for this season as well.

"From what the guys are saying, we are stronger this year than last year," Lizzo said. "They are practicing very hard and it will pay off in the long run."

Lizzo said junior Andrew Bolduc and sophomore Andy Samara, are the number one doubles team and can compete with anyone in the conference.

"Freshman John Lescure is playing tough and will make some noise," Lizzo said.

The Knights first home game is Saturday Oct. 1 at noon.

Previous Coach Robert Fleming stepped down as head coach after four years.

"Coach Fleming's decision to leave was a personal one," Kenny said. "He received a great job offer that was going to force him to leave the area, and he felt he needed to pursue this meaningful opportunity."

Sports Buzz

A look at the past week in St. Michael's sports and a look ahead at the week to come.

Cross Country

Next race - 10/1 @ Middlebury

St. Rose 1
9/24 SMC 0
Bryant 1 (20T)
Next game - 9/27 vs. AIC

Field Hockey

9/22 SMC 2
Bentley 3
9/22 SMC 5
Merrimack 1
9/24 SMC 5
Assumption 0
Next game
9/28 HOME vs. St. Anselm

Men's Tennis

9/24 SMC 9
Lyndon St 0
Next match - 10/1 HOME vs Merrimack

Women's Tennis

9/18 SMC 9
Lyndon St. 0
Next match - 10/1 HOME vs Merrimack

Golf

9/24-9/25 finished 7th of 12
Next match - 10/2-3 ECAC Championships at LeMoyne

Men's Soccer

9/20 - SMC 0
St. Anselm 1
9/24 - SMC 1
LeMoyne 2
Next game - 9/28 @ AIC

Volleyball

9/24 SMC 1
UMass-Lowell 3
Next game - 9/27 @ St. Anselm

Men's Rugby

9/17 SMC 14
Williams 13
9/24 HOME vs Bryant

Women's Soccer

9/21- SMC 0

SPORTS



Photo courtesy of Cailie Burns

A look at the car Cailie Burns was in after being hit by a drunken driver two summers ago.

From tragic crash to magic smash

Tennis player overcomes near-death accident and returns to the court

By Haven Quinn
Sports Editor

From a near-fatal car accident to her return to the court, Burns has overcome many obstacles, not only returning to life as a normal student, but also as a tennis player.

As a first-year in 2003-2004, Burns played a strong role on the team. In the summer of 2004, a car she was riding in was struck by a drunken driver on a highway in Rhode Island.

"I was in the passenger seat where the other car hit," Burns said. "The driver and the person in the back seat walked away, but I was trapped under the dashboard."

Burns was unable to move as the car caught on fire. Luckily four bystanders came to help. Burns said she sat patiently because she was in such shock she didn't know what was going on.

"I couldn't walk or move," Burns said. "The men got me out and about 20 seconds later the car exploded."

Burns broke both femurs, four vertebrae, an ankle and wound up with a six-inch scar on her head from surgery. Burns spent three weeks in the hospital, then six months in a wheelchair at home. She returned to St. Michael's on crutches for the second semester of last year.

By the end of February she was off crutches but not allowed to run until June. Burns watched the team from the sideline as it lost to Bryant in the NE-10 semi-finals.

In the team's first game of the season, Burns returned with doubles partner Molly Harrison to win their doubles matches against Bentley.

From there, Burns won her singles and doubles matches against LeMoyne and won again in doubles against Lyndon State, helping the team improve to 2-1.

Senior captain Heidi Murphy, who played with Burns when Burns was a first-year, said it was good to have her back.

"She has been playing awesome," Murphy said. "She has really stepped up, considering what happened and she has stayed positive the whole time."

Third year Head Coach Greg Cluff said Burns' return is a tremendous boost to the team.



Photo by Jonah Kessel

Cailie Burns delivers a shot against Lyndon St. Michael's won 9-0

"As a player, she is excellent," Cluff said, "but she is an amazingly determined person and athlete who has made a remarkable physical recovery. Cailie is performing at a phenomenal level. The word which I would use to describe Cailie is 'determined.'"

Burns still fights pain in her ankle and knees when she plays. She will have surgery in October to fix her peroneal tendon in her ankle. The peroneal tendon is the same tendon Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling injured last year.

"I don't move as fluidly around the court as I used to," Burns said. "When I was told I was conference player of the week, it made me realize how far I came. I was very pessimistic at the beginning, I didn't know if I was going to be able to play, and to come this far and given this honor, it means a lot."

The team has three more games this fall and six games scheduled in the spring.

KNIGHT WRITER

By Haven Quinn



A heated rivalry dance-off

Red Sox - Yankees dance. Sweet idea. Seriously. It's only one of the biggest rivalries in sports today, so let's unite all the fans who hate each other the most in a friendly dance this Friday in Alliot.

This rivalry is a sensitive subject. I know boyfriends who won't talk to their girlfriends during these series because they see talking to them as a modern day Trojan horse.

If I'm at a bar and I see a woman sipping a drink and she is wearing a Yankees shirt, then I would call the cops when she leaves and say she is under the influence. So why would I want to dance with some girl who is going to say, "Oh my God the Yankees are so good. We have 26 rings?" I don't.

Sox fans would be wearing their same old Sox cap with sweat stains on it, because we don't need a new one every month. At the dance, guys probably would appear with a little facial hair. Ladies would be wearing a navy blue Johnny Damon tee-shirt. If I go to the dance, then along with my beat up Sox hat I will wear my A-Rod shirt. You know what shirt I'm talking about. I rock it proudly.

A Yanks fan would wear a brand new Yankee hat on backwards, probably tilted and popped collared pink polo shirt.

The division race is as tight as my bond with sunscreen. So a dance during one of the most important series of the year, will have tension among fans so thick you could cut it with the plastic knives Alliot uses when they go cheap, is probably a bad idea.

I have been practicing some new dance moves just in case I go. My favorite is called "The Slap". It's dedicated to A-Rod, because of his cowardly actions of slapping Bronson Arroyo's glove during the ALCS last

year. No one forgets that classic slap that A-Rod made. I am only going to use that move once, so be watching.

My other move is called, "The reason I am meeting with Lou on Monday." Remember when Varitek punched A-Rod? My move goes like this. I start dancing with a Yankees fan, (guy or girl, it doesn't matter) I let the magic happen and then "WHAMEE." I deliver a direct shot to their face.

This dance is going to happen. It costs four dollars in advance, five dollars at the door if you're wearing team apparel and six dollars if you just stumble to the door. I'm not going to be that kid who is so excited to go, he pay's in advance. I'm not carrying money to pay admission to a school dance, but I would rather give six bucks to a hot first-year Sox fan wearing a Sox hat to slap me in the face, then pay to get in and dance with a Yankees fan. But that's just me.

For everyone who doesn't go, I will be sponsoring my own theme dance in my place of residence after the game. (I live on first floor Lyons, North side. You know the room.) The theme will be along the lines of, "We won, Yankees suck, let's get weird." There is no admission, just leave your empty soda cans and I will return them.

There is to be no drinking in my place of residence; Lyons hall is dry, about as dry as the Nile on the weekend. Only diet sodas and lemonade will be served, and "Sweet Caroline" will play in the background.

This is life and death. This series means a lot. It's almost playoff time. My stomach is turning just thinking about it I'm so nervous for this weekend.

Any suggestions on what I should wear to the dance?

Junior | Women's Tennis | Double major in political science and religious studies | Chepachet, R.I.

Athlete of the Week

Cailie Burns



High School- Ponaganset.

Started Playing- Eight years-old.

Why SMC- Burlington is so beautiful and I love the campus. The people here are so nice.

Favorite memory- I have so many I can't pick one.

Favorite Food- Falafel.

Plans for after graduation- Law school. I would love to be an advocate for Women and Children.

Why Chosen: Named NE-10 Conference player of the week last week, helping her team to two straight wins.

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SPORTS

Back and ready to ruck



Photos by Jonah Kessel

The St. Michael's men's rugby team hustles for the ball after a kickoff against Bryant on Saturday, Sept. 24.

Men move to 2-0 after beating Bryant Women win 1st league game

By Kim Bookless
Staff Writer

The men's rugby team faced Bryant College in the second of its five matches this season, Saturday Sept. 24.

The match started at 3 p.m. last Saturday, soon after junior Rob Outtrim scored the game's first try. Bryant failed to score as four additional tries were scored by senior captain Scott McNeilly, sophomores Matt Brown and Evan Sivo and junior Graham Jesmer. Senior Paul Harper, junior Tom Smith and sophomore John Herman assisted tries. Pat Sheld scored on three of four conversion kicks, adding to a 31-0 St. Michael's win. This marks the first time, St. Michael's has won a match against Bryant, in the last two years.

The team played without key players Steve Theoharides and Adam Lewand-Koch due to injuries received in last week's match. They stood on the sidelines, offering advice and encouragement to their teammates.

"Watch at the end of the game how many guys give each other hugs," Theoharides said. "You go to battle for 80 minutes every week with these guys."

Team members agree there's much camaraderie in rugby. Sophomore Jonathan Francis said he got involved after being encouraged to join by friends.

"We have a position for every size," Francis said. "If you are 300 pounds or if you are 120 pounds it doesn't make a difference. We have a place for you."

Respect and sportsmanship are key parts of the game Sivo said.

"It's a gentleman's game," he said. "At the end of the game we cheer for the other team, for the ref and for our team. Even though you bleed on the field, you go and shake their hands because they respect you as much as you respect them."

Saturday was the first game for both teams since being suspended. The teams were suspended after returning from a tournament in New York on April 2. The hotel that the teams stayed at had noise complaints and damage violations.

"We are a completely different team this year," Sivo said. "We made mistakes last year. They won't be repeated."

The men have developed into more serious competitors dedicated to a hard work ethic set by new coach Michael Ashooh. They are in better shape due to a strenuous conditioning regimen.

Last year the team went 0-5 and this year has won its first two matches, including a 14-13 win



Sophomore Matt Brown plows through opponents alongside senior Craig Wilkinson (from left), senior Scott McNeilly and sophomore Evan Sivo.

over Williams College on Sept. 17.

St. Michael's men's rugby will play at Babson on Saturday, Oct. 1.

Rugby 101

► 15 players on the field for each team.

► A "try" is worth five points and is scored by touching the ball to the ground in the try zone.

► The ball is advanced by throwing it backwards or kicking it up the field.

► Matches are 80 minutes long.

► A "scrum" is when eight forwards from a team pack together over a spot designated by the referee; the ball is placed in the middle and the teams try to free the ball by pushing against each others back. Once the ball is free it can be picked up.

By Kim Bookless
Staff Writer

After part of the season was cancelled last spring, both men's and women's rugby teams are back.

The women played an exhibition match in Canada to start their season, but Saturday, against UMass-Lowell, played their first of five league matches. Senior co-captain Abbey Breckheimer scored the first try of the match.

UMass scored two consecutive tries, but St. Michael's fought back. Alissa Hussey scored St. Michael's second try and Megan Sweeney successfully kicked the conversion. Suzie LaRoux scored the final try of the match with seven minutes left. St. Michael's won 17-15.

Coach Charles Cisco said the game went well because the women were persistent and tackled well.

Senior Sara McLaughlin said "everyone was in it to win it."

The team has improved since last year having gained experi-

ence. The win is the teams first opening day league win. Parents attending parents weekend were nervous watching their daughters being tackled, but were thrilled with their performances.

Barbara Hussey, mother of senior Alissa Hussey drove five hours to watch the match and was impressed by her daughter's effort.

"She's done great. She's tough, tougher than I thought she was," she said.

"I don't think you can be anything but close in this sport," Kevin Burns, father of first-year player Shannon Burns, said.

Sophomore Kristen Tou-ton-Greenwood said senior co-captain Michelle Kenney and Breckheimer have shown excellent leadership and helped unite the team.

"We have incredible desire and athletic ability," Breckheimer said.

The team's next match is Saturday, Oct. 1, on the 300's field against Framingham State.



Senior Abbey Breckheimer goes after a loose ball during St. Michael's 17-15 victory over UMass Lowell on Saturday Sept. 24.